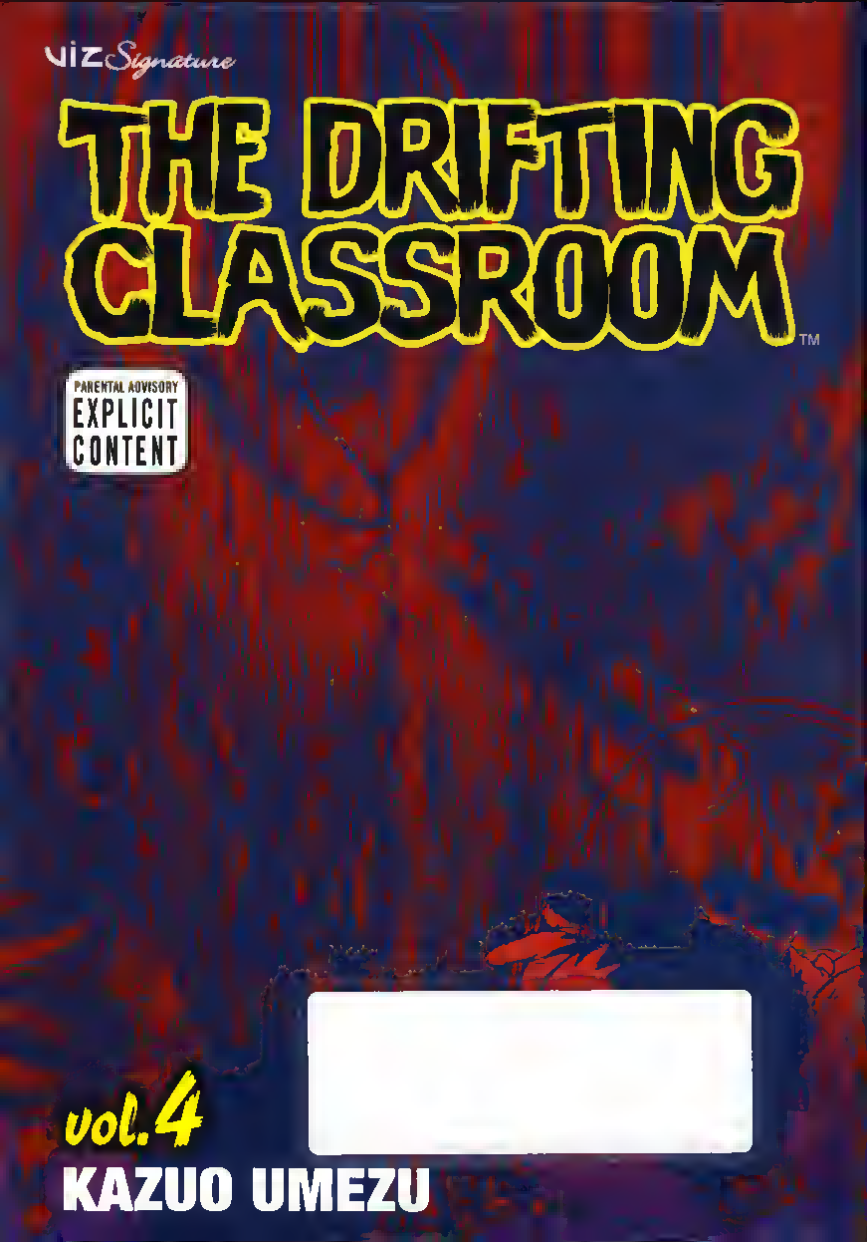
VIZ Signature

THE DRIFTING CLASSROOM™

PARENTAL ADVISORY
EXPLICIT CONTENT



vol. 4

KAZUO UMEZU

THE DRIFTING CLASSROOM™

"An ominoua atmosphere that effects the reader before the story even begins…extremely disturbing…a great rediscovery of a claaaic title, echoes of which can be seen in modern horror manga."
—Publishers Weekly Starred Review

Out of nowhere, a Japanese elementary school la transported into e hostile world. Now, the students and teachers must struggle to survive In impossible conditions, bealeged by terrifying creatures and beset by medness. Part horror, part science fiction, ***The Drifting Classroom*** ie a classic can't-put-down manga series from horror manga mester Kazuo Umezu ***(Orochi: Blood, Baptism of Blood)!***

When a despotic student ettempts to take control of the school, Sho tries to bring hia classmates to their sensee. But while the students squabble over power, something horrible comes closer and cloaer…something thet followed them out of the wasteland…eomething that can't be stopped. As the school is besieged, the students fight back desperately, weak with hunger. But this time, running out of food is the least of their worriee. Thia time, they *are* food...

THE DRIFTING CLASSROOM™

vol.4

KAZUO UMEZU

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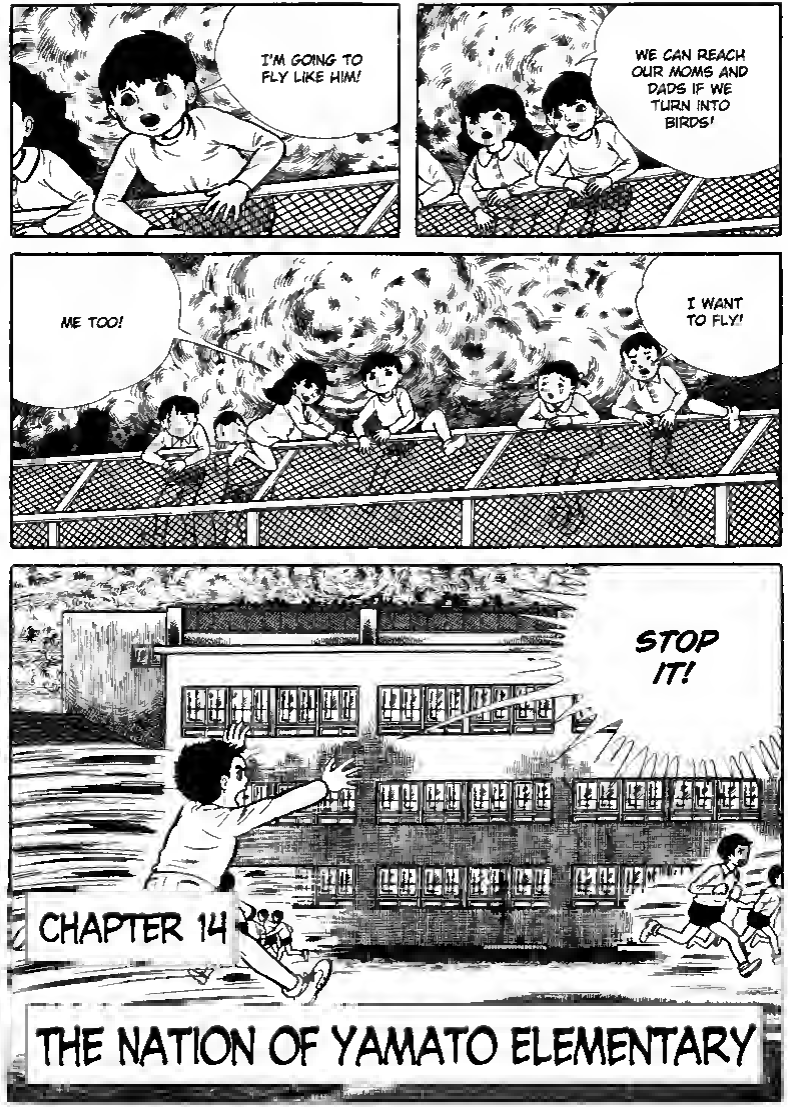
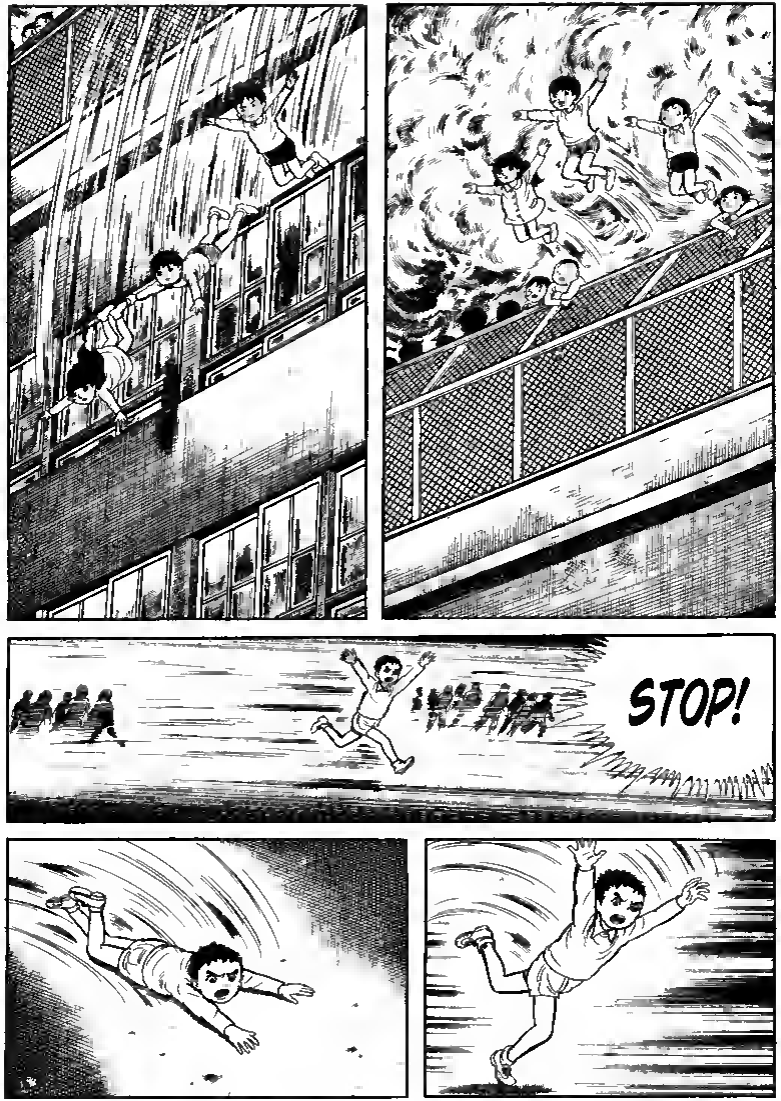
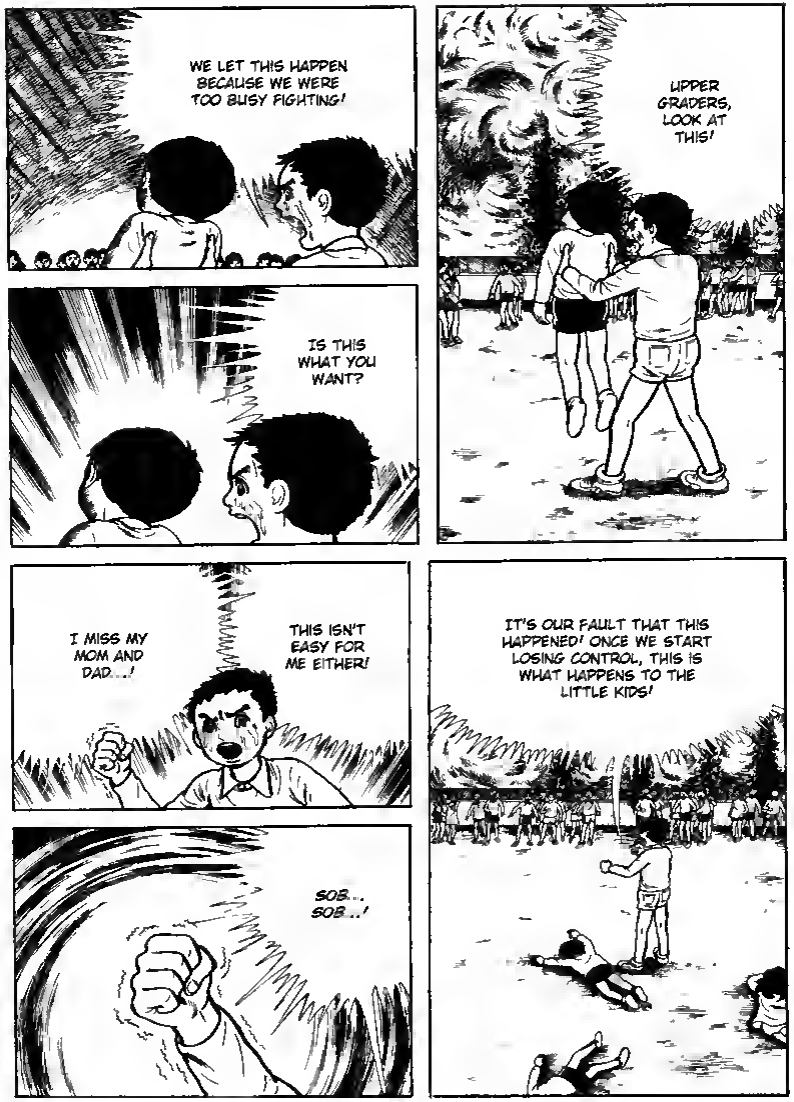

I'M GOING TO FLY LIKE HIM!
WE CAN REACH OUR MOMS AND DADS IF WE TURN INTO BIRDS!
ME TOO!
I WANT TO FLY!
STOP IT!
CHAPTER 14
THE NATION OF YAMATO ELEMENTARY


STOP!

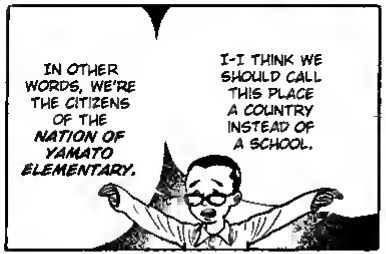
THUD
THUD
RRGH ...!
LOOK AT THEM! IS THIS WHAT YOU WANT?!
STOP IT, YOU IDIOTS!
STOP IT!
ME TOO!
I'M GOING TO TURN INTO A BIRD AND FLY AWAY!
DOES HE LOOK LIKE A BIRD? THIS IS WHAT'LL HAPPEN TO YOU IF YOU JUMP!
LOOK AT HIM!
LOOK!
DO YOU WANT TO BE LIKE HIM, FIRST-GRADERS?
AAH!
SOB...!
LOOK!


WE LET THIS HAPPEN BECAUSE WE WERE TOO BUSY FIGHTING!
UPPER GRADERS, LOOK AT THIS!
IS THIS WHAT YOU WANT?
I MISS MY MOM AND DAD...!
THIS ISN'T EASY FOR ME EITHER!
IT'S OUR FAULT THAT THIS HAPPENED! ONCE WE START LOSING CONTROL, THIS IS WHAT HAPPENS TO THE LITTLE KIDS!
SOB... SOB...!

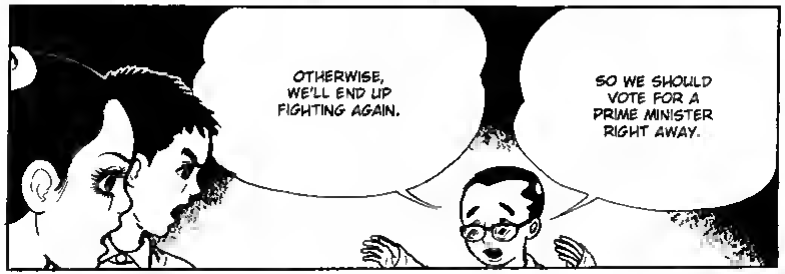
SHO!
SHO!
UWAHH!
AAAHH!
NNH...UNH...
I KNOW YOU WANTED TO CRY FOR YOUR PARENTS TOO, BUT YOU HELD IT IN FOR THE REST OF US!
THANK YOU, SHO!
WAAH! AAH!
YOU PULLED ME THROUGH!
I WOULD HAVE FALLEN APART IF YOU HAD CRIED!

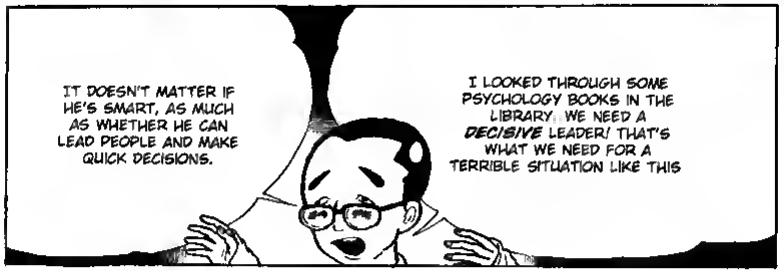
UH, UM, IT'S ME, GAMO I NEED TO TALK TO YOU.

UM... AH... SH-SHO...!


IN OTHER WORDS, WE'RE THE CITIZENS OF THE NATION OF YAMATO ELEMENTARY.
I-I THINK WE SHOULD CALL THIS PLACE A COUNTRY INSTEAD OF A SCHOOL.

I'M NOT VERY GOOD AT TALKING TO PEOPLE, BUT I THINK WE NEED TO HAVE A GOVERNMENT TO KEEP EVERYBODY ORGANIZED.


OTHERWISE, WE'LL END UP FIGHTING AGAIN.
SO WE SHOULD VOTE FOR A PRIME MINISTER RIGHT AWAY.


IT DOESN'T MATTER IF HE'S SMART, AS MUCH AS WHETHER HE CAN LEAD PEOPLE AND MAKE QUICK DECISIONS.
I LOOKED THROUGH SOME PSYCHOLOGY BOOKS IN THE LIBRARY. WE NEED A DECISIVE LEADER! THAT'S WHAT WE NEED FOR A TERRIBLE SITUATION LIKE THIS

I'M ON YOUR SIDE TOO!

TAKAMATSU!

ME TOO!
ME TOO!

THOSE IDIOTS!
HMPH!

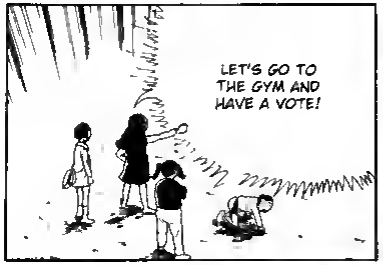
TAKAMATSU!

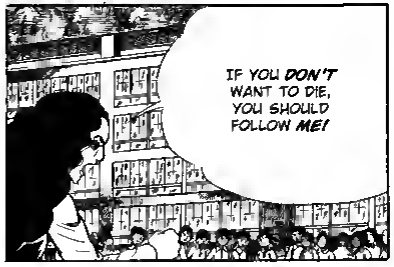
BAM
HAH!

WE'RE GOING TO VOTE FOR THE SCHOOL BOSS!
WE'RE GOING TO HAVE AN ELECTION!

ALL RIGHT, EVERYONE!

WHO CARES WHAT HAPPENS TO THE KIDS IN THE LOWER GRADES! LET 'EM DIE IF THAT'S WHAT THEY WANT!
THIS IS WHAT HAPPENS WHEN YOU LISTEN TO SHO!

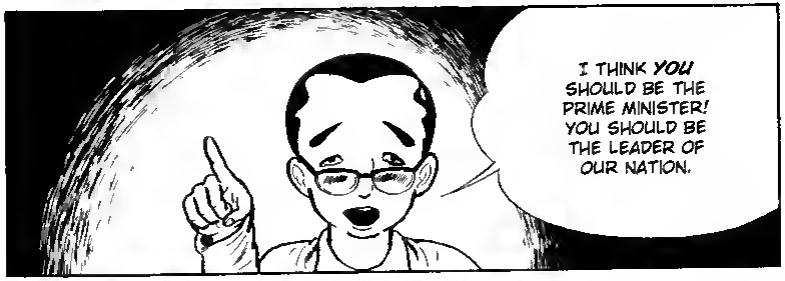

LET'S GO TO THE GYM AND HAVE A VOTE!


IF YOU *DON'T* WANT TO DIE, YOU SHOULD FOLLOW *ME!*

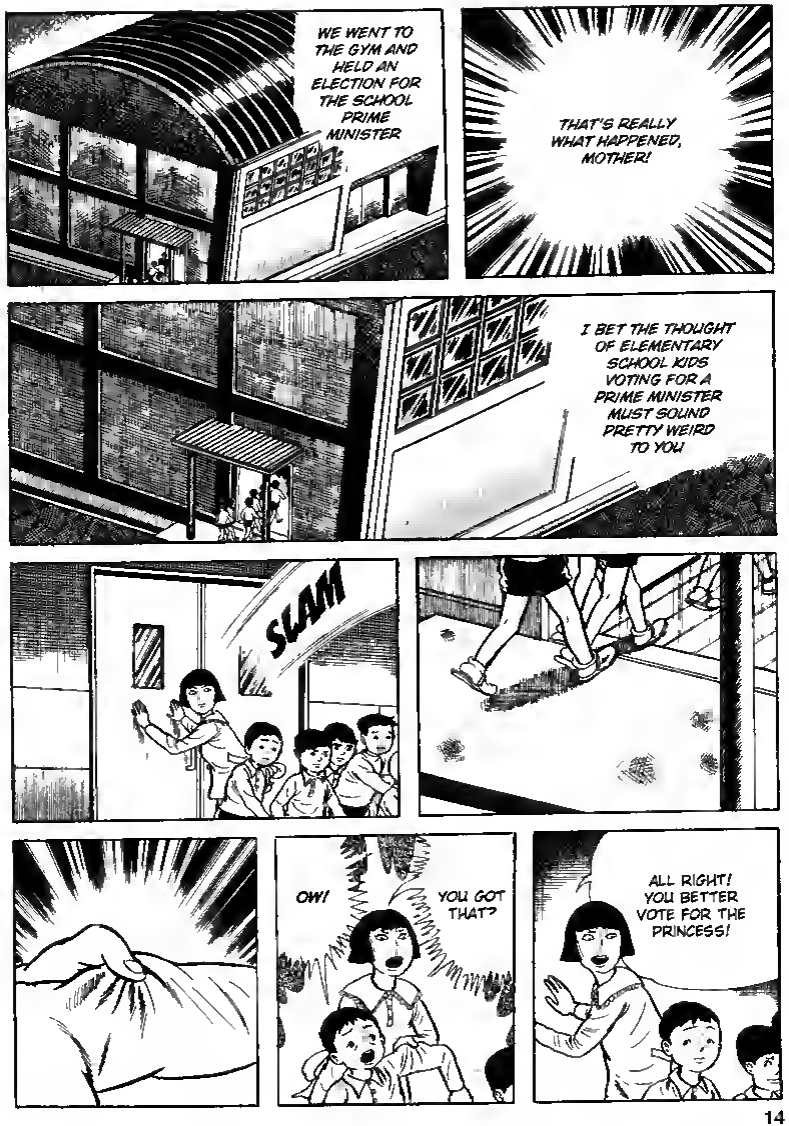
OKAY!
TOMEKO, HATSUKO, TAKE EVERYONE TO THE GYM. THE LOWER GRADERS TOO!

SO, UM...THE GANG GIRL MIGHT BE DECISIVE, BUT SH, SH, SHE'S TOO DANGEROUS. N-N-NOBODY REALLY LIKES HER AND SHE'LL JUST PICK ON PEOPLE.

THAT COULD BE REALLY BAD IF SHE WAS BOSS.
B-BESIDES, GIRLS DON'T MAKE GOOD LEADERS. THEY'RE TOO EMOTIONAL AND NARROW-MINDED BECAUSE THEY CAN HAVE CHILDREN.


I THINK *YOU* SHOULD BE THE PRIME MINISTER! YOU SHOULD BE THE LEADER OF OUR NATION.

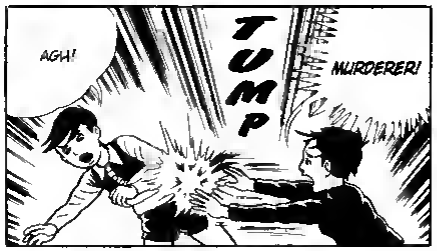
B-BUT I'M SURE SHE'LL WANT TO HOLD AN ELECTION.


WE WENT TO THE GYM AND HELD AN ELECTION FOR THE SCHOOL PRIME MINISTER
THAT'S REALLY WHAT HAPPENED, MOTHER!
I BET THE THOUGHT OF ELEMENTARY SCHOOL KIDS VOTING FOR A PRIME MINISTER MUST SOUND PRETTY WEIRD TO YOU!
SLAM
OW!
YOU GOT THAT?
ALL RIGHT! YOU BETTER VOTE FOR THE PRINCESS!

IF YOU DON'T VOTE FOR THE PRINCESS, YOU'LL HAVE MORE OF THAT COMING TO YOU
OWW! THAT HURTS!
LISTEN UP, EVERYONE! VOTE FOR WHOEVER YOU WANT!
YOU! GET THE BALLOT BOX.
BUT IF YOU DON'T WANT ME FOR YOUR ENEMY YOU BETTER VOTE FOR ME!
I'M ALL SET UP HERE!
I-I'LL BE THE MONITOR

LISTEN UP, EVERYONE! THIS GUY IS A LIAR! HE ONLY CARES ABOUT HIMSELF!

WHAT?!
L-LET GO OF ME, YOU MURDERER!


AGH!
THUMP
MURDERER!

DON'T TELL THEM!
STOP IT, OTOMO!

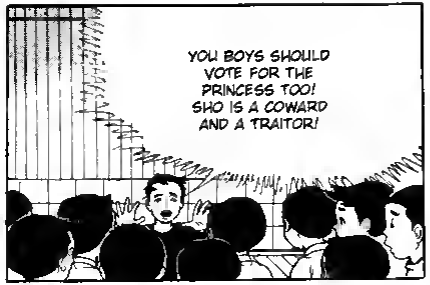
LISTEN UP, EVERYONE!

OTOMO!
THAT BASTARD! HE KNOCKED ME OUT AND RAN AWAY!

WHO DOES SHE THINK SHE IS?
THAT BITCH!

DON'T LISTEN TO THE LIES! YOU HAVE TO THINK FOR YOURSELVES!

YOU ALL KNOW HOW GREAT SHO IS!


YOU BOYS SHOULD VOTE FOR THE PRINCESS TOO! SHO IS A COWARD AND A TRAITOR!

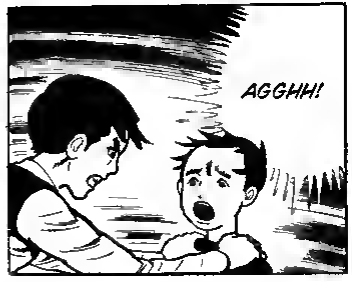
YOU BETTER VOTE FOR THE PRINCESS!

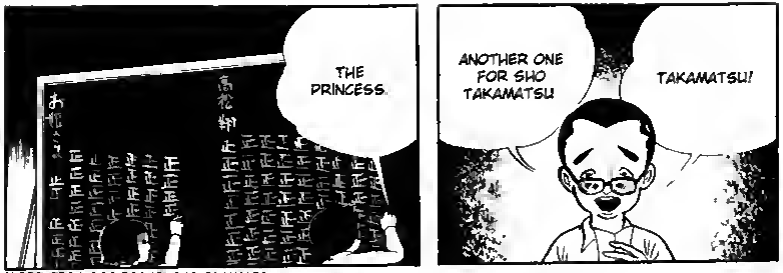
LISTEN TO WHAT HE'S SAYING!

YOU BASTARD!

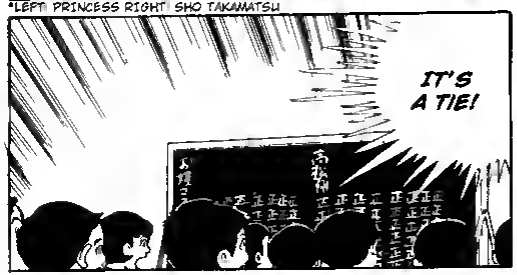
FORGET ABOUT IT, OTOMO
I'M GOING TO KILL HIM!

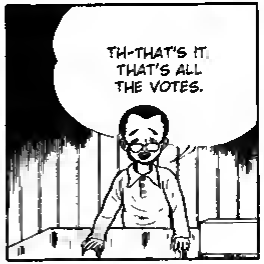
WE HAVEN'T TOLD ANYONE WHAT A COWARD YOU WERE!

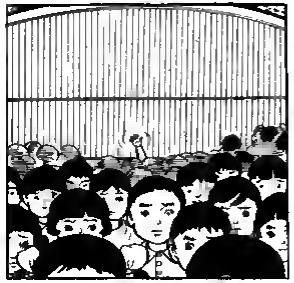

AGGHH!

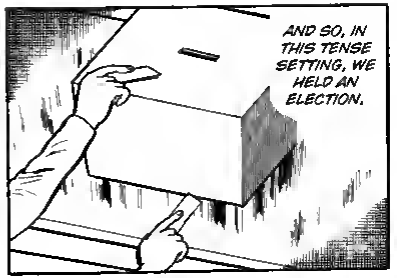


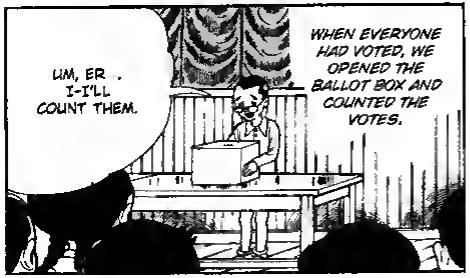
*LEFT: PRINCESS RIGHT: SHO TAKAMATSU

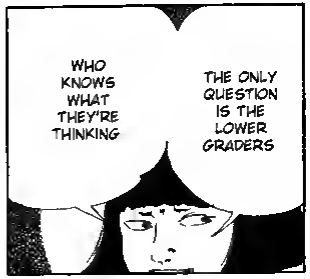


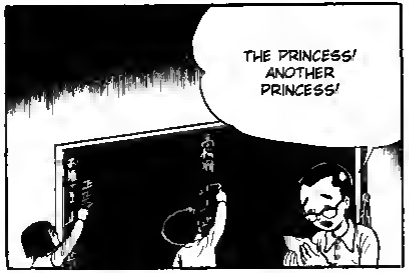


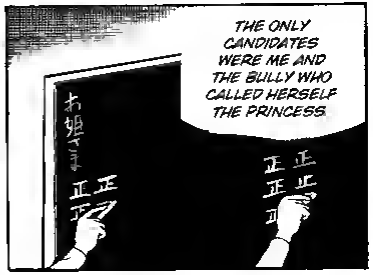








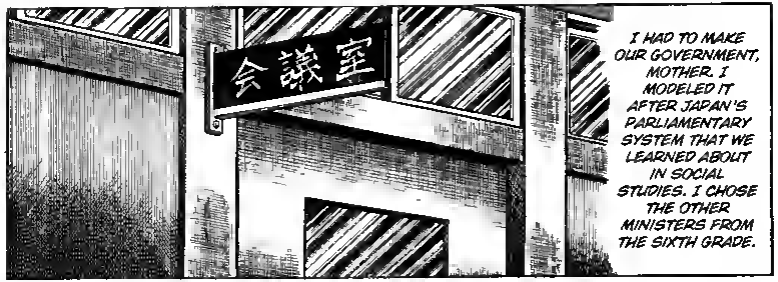




ONLY STUDENTS CAN VOTE! HE'S NOT EVEN A FIRST-GRADER!
HE DOESN'T COUNT!
THAT KID HAS NO RIGHT TO VOTE!
UM.. I-I-IT'S ME!
WH-WHO!?
THAT'S RIGHT THERE'S SOMEONE ELSE WHO HASN'T VOTED
YAAY
YAAY
YAAY
AND I, I, I VOTE FOR SHO!
YOU'RE THE PRIME MINISTER! WE WON!
SHO!
TAKA-MATSU!

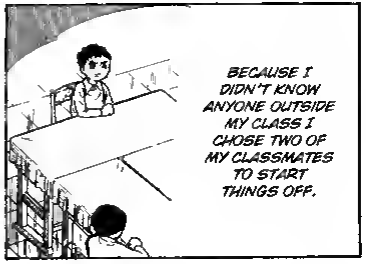
I CAN'T WRITE, SO I DIDN'T VOTE!
IT'S ME.
GET OVER HERE!
WHO ARE YOU!?
WH-WHO DO YOU VOTE FOR THEN?
YOU DIDN'T.
YU!
THIS ONE!
GO TO THE ONE YOU WANT
HMPH!
SHO!

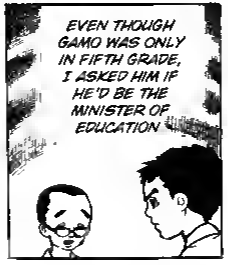
ALL I KNEW WAS, I WOULD DO MY BEST.
I FELT A LITTLE NERVOUS. I HAD TO BE IN CHARGE OF THE WHOLE SCHOOL. BUT COULD I REALLY DO IT?
THANKS!
IT WON'T BE EASY, BUT I'LL STICK WITH YOU!
I'M LEAVING!
FUCK THIS!
THIS IS YOUR ONE CHANCE TO JOIN ME!
I DON'T WANT TO STAY HERE WITH YOU IDIOTS!
NO! YOU CAN'T LEAVE THE SCHOOL!
ME TOO!
I'LL GO!
ALL RIGHT, WHO ELSE?
ME TOO!
I'LL GO WITH YOU, PRINCESS!
NNHAAA!
WHAT ABOUT YOU!?
IS THAT ALL!
I'M NOT GOING!
NO!
I LIED. I'M SO SORRY!
I WAS WRONG!
I'M SORRY, SHO!
PLEASE FORGIVE ME, EVERYONE!
THEN YOU'LL REALLY BE SORRY!
YOU'LL SEE! INSTEAD OF ROTTING AWAY HERE, I'LL FIND SOME PLACE WITH LOTS OF FOOD.
YOU JERK!

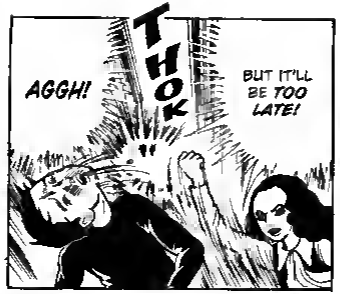

会議室
I HAD TO MAKE OUR GOVERNMENT, MOTHER. I MODELED IT AFTER JAPAN'S PARLIAMENTARY SYSTEM THAT WE LEARNED ABOUT IN SOCIAL STUDIES. I CHOSE THE OTHER MINISTERS FROM THE SIXTH GRADE.

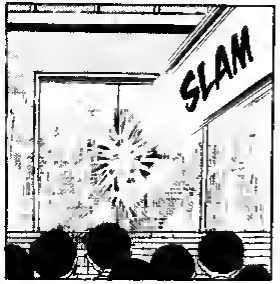
*SIGN=CONFERENCE ROOM

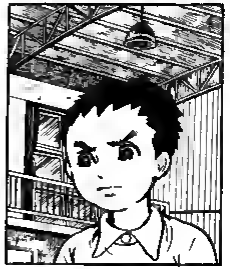
WE HAVE TO DO SOMETHING ABOUT OUR FOOD SUPPLY!
OTOMO, WHO WAS THE CLASS REPRESENTATIVE, WAS THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND WELFARE.









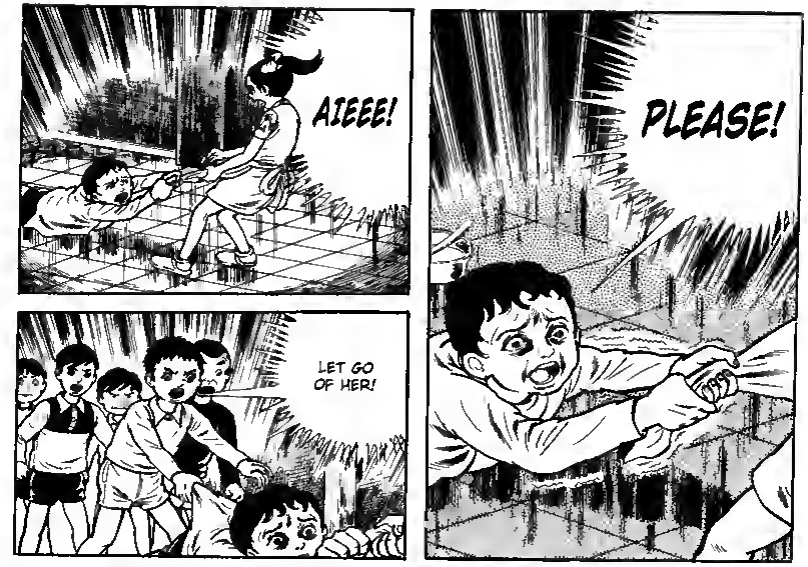


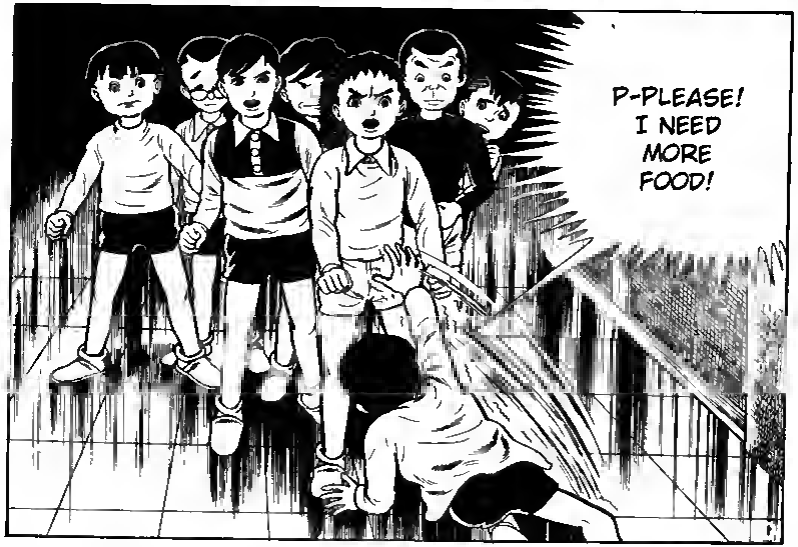
HE'S RIGHT BY THE KITCHEN...
COME ON! COME WITH ME!
AH!
THERE HE IS!
WHAT HAPPENED !?
NWHH

I LET THE OTHER CLASSES CHOOSE THEIR OWN MINISTERS THE FUNNY THING WAS THAT THEY WERE ALL TROUBLEMAKERS, LIKE ME!
TELL ME IF YOU HAVE ANY PROBLEMS!
THERE'S SEVEN OF US. LET'S DO OUR BEST TO LEAD EVERYBODY!
I NEVER IMAGINED THAT WE'D USE THE TEACHERS' CONFERENCE ROOM.
WHAT'S GOING ON?!
QUICK! I NEED HELP!
WHAM
H-HELP! IT'S AN EMERGENCY!
HE'S SHAKING ALL OVER!
I DON'T KNOW!
WHAT HAPPENED !?
THIS GUY PASSED OUT!

UNHH!
HERE YOU GO
NNHH!
WHAT!?
IF HE'S THAT HUNGRY, GIVE HIM HIS FOOD NOW!
GLUT
GLUT
GLUT
GRAB
I'M STILL HUNGRY! I NEED MORE!
MORE!
GULP
SLURP!
KUAN

WHAT'S WRONG!?
TREMBLE
TREMBLE
WE MADE RICE PORRIDGE, LIKE YOU TOLD US. THIS WAY THE FOOD WILL LAST LONGER!
SHO, THE DINNERS ARE ALMOST READY.
PANT PANT
N-NOTHING! NOTHING'S WRONG!
PLEASE GIVE ME MY FOOD NOW!
I'M STARVING TO DEATH!
I NEED SOME RICE!
R-RICE ..!
WHAT SHOULD WE DO, SHO? HE LOOKS AWFUL, BUT WE'D BE BREAKING THE RULES IF WE FED HIM BEFORE EVERYONE ELSE...
WHAT?!
NOW! PLEASE!
I NEED SOMETHING TO EAT! I'LL DIE!


AIEEE!
PLEASE!
LET GO OF HER!


P-PLEASE! I NEED MORE FOOD!

WE ALREADY LET YOU HAVE YOUR DINNER AHEAD OF EVERYONE!
BUT YOU JUST ATE!

I KNOW! BUT I'M SO HUNGRY!

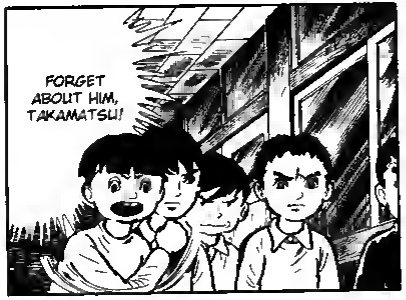
THAT WASN'T MUCH. IT JUST MADE ME HUNGRIER. NOW I REALLY NEED TO EAT!

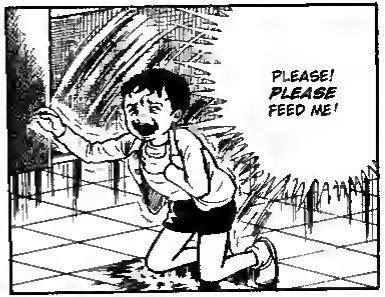
PLEASE LET ME HAVE SOME MORE!
I DON'T KNOW WHY BUT I'M SO HUNGRY!

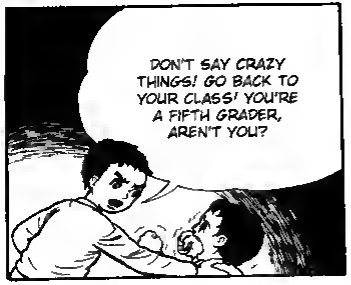
WE CAN'T GIVE YOU THAT MUCH FOOD! YOU KNOW WE DON'T HAVE MUCH LEFT! YOU JUST ATE YOUR FOOD FOR TONIGHT!
STOP IT!
N-NO!
I THINK HE'S JUST PRETENDING TO BE STARVING!
SOMETHING'S WRONG WITH HIM, SHO!
I-I'LL CONFESS IF YOU FEED ME!
URGGH ...!
I REALLY AM HUNGRY!
I'M THE ONE WHO STOLE THE FOOD IN THE STORAGE ROOM

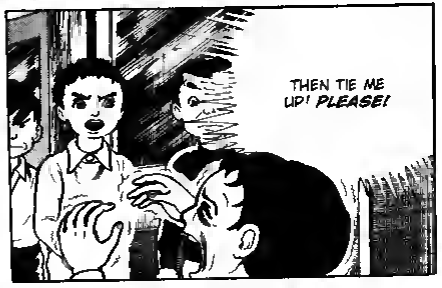
I WAS SO HUNGRY I COULDN'T STOP MYSELF!
IT WAS ME! I STOLE IT!
IT WAS YOU?!
WHAT ?!
I ATE IT ALL!
THAT WAS ENOUGH FOOD FOR TEN PEOPLE!
YOU ATE IT ALL YOURSELF?! ALREADY?
BUT I CAN'T STOP EATING!
WHAT IN THE WORLD ...?

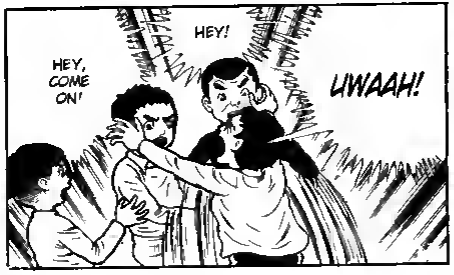
BUT WE CAN'T *GIVE* YOU ANY *MORE*! WE DON'T HAVE ENOUGH!


FORGET ABOUT HIM, TAKAMATSU!

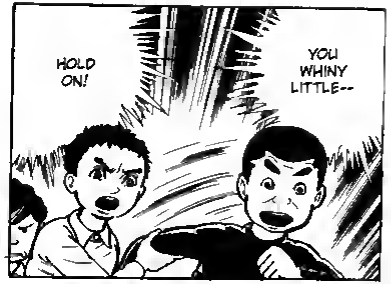

PLEASE! *PLEASE* FEED ME!


DON'T SAY CRAZY THINGS! GO BACK TO YOUR CLASS! YOU'RE A FIFTH GRADER, AREN'T YOU?


THEN TIE ME UP! *PLEASE!*

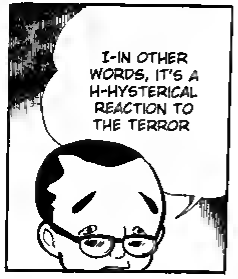

HEY, COME ON!
HEY!
UWAAH!

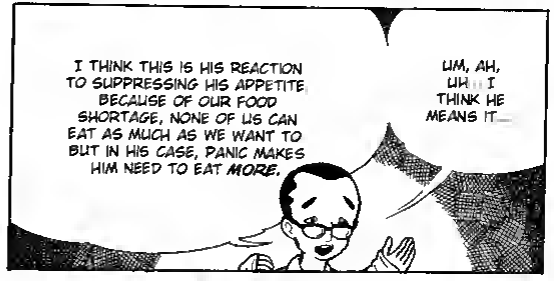
NNHH!


HOLD ON!
YOU WHINY LITTLE--

I CAN'T HELP IT!
PLEASE! I NEED MORE!

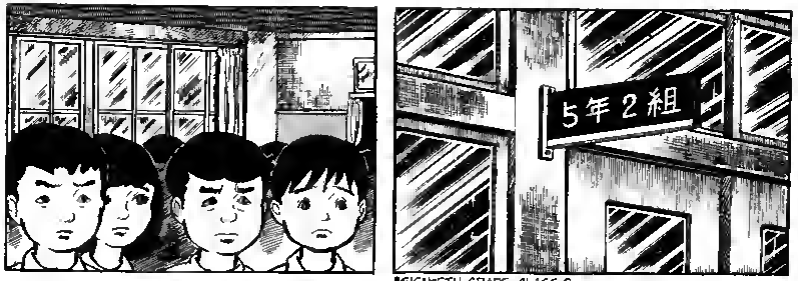
HE MIGHT BE TELLING THE TRUTH!


I-IN OTHER WORDS, IT'S A H-HYSTERICAL REACTION TO THE TERROR

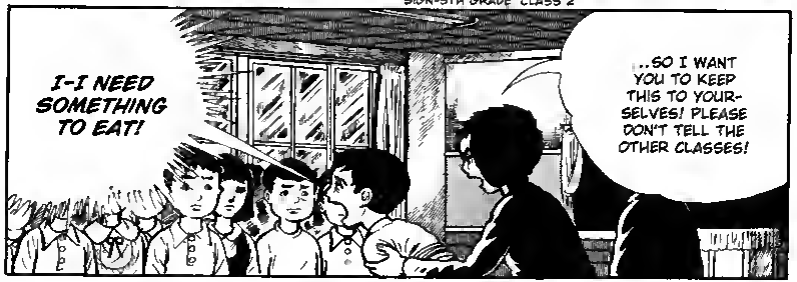

I THINK THIS IS HIS REACTION TO SUPPRESSING HIS APPETITE BECAUSE OF OUR FOOD SHORTAGE, NONE OF US CAN EAT AS MUCH AS WE WANT TO BUT IN HIS CASE, PANIC MAKES HIM NEED TO EAT *MORE*.
UM, AH, UH I THINK HE MEANS IT...

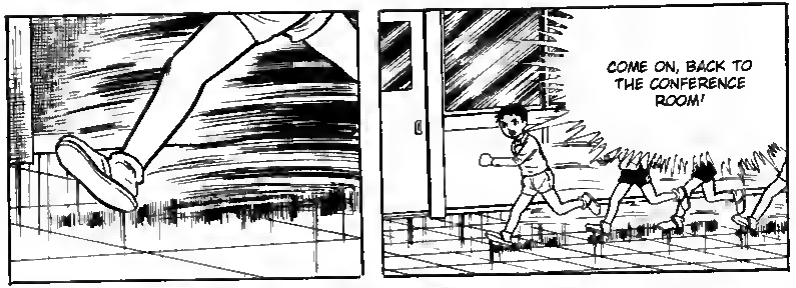
HIS APPETITE WILL BE INSATIABLE UNTIL HE GOES BACK TO THE NORMAL WORLD
TH-THIS IS THE ONLY WAY HE CAN DEAL WITH IT...

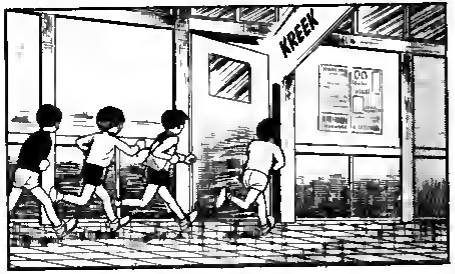
GRAB HIM!
WHERE ARE YOU GOING?!
I NEED FOOD!
NNAAGGHH!
WE SHOULD PROBABLY TIE HIM UP, SAKI, GET SOME ROPE!
OKAY!
UM, AH... W-WAIT! YOU'RE HOLDING ME DOWN TOO! I-I'M THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION!
NNHH! NNYAA!
GWAA!
BUT IF WE LOCK HIM UP, PEOPLE WILL WANT TO KNOW WHY WE DID IT! THEY'LL FIND OUT ANYWAY!
HUFF HUFF!
LET'S LOCK HIM UP! ONCE EVERYONE FINDS OUT HE STOLE THE FOOD, THEY'LL BEAT HIM TO DEATH!
LET'S TAKE HIM THERE!
HE'S IN CLASS TWO I KNOW HIM
BESIDES, IF HE HAS A FIT WHEN HE'S ALONE, HE MIGHT BITE HIS TONGUE OR SUFFOCATE WE SHOULD HAVE HIS CLASSMATES LOOK AFTER HIM
THANKS, SAKI!
I'LL FINISH FIXING DINNER!

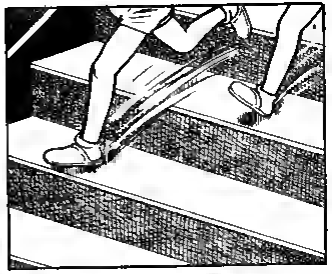


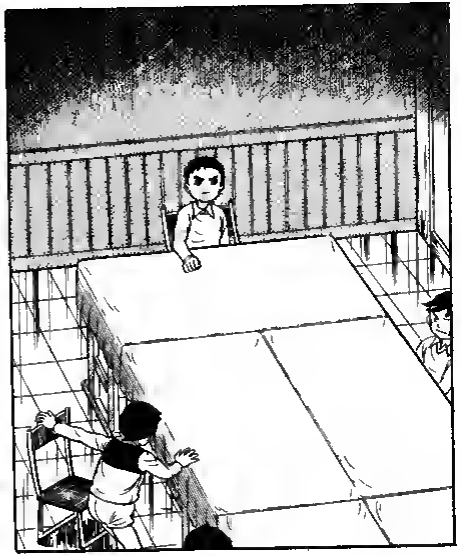
*SIGN=5TH GRADE CLASS 2



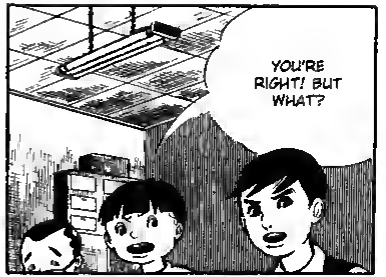


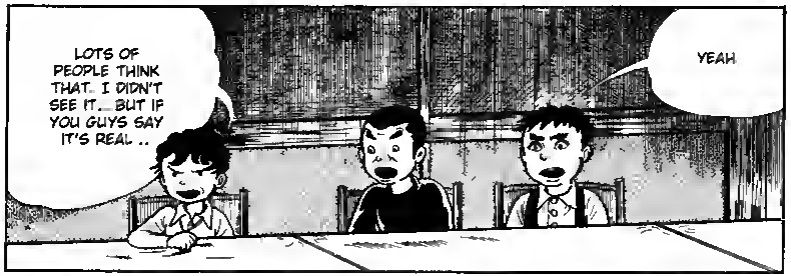


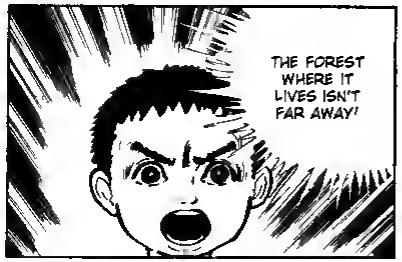


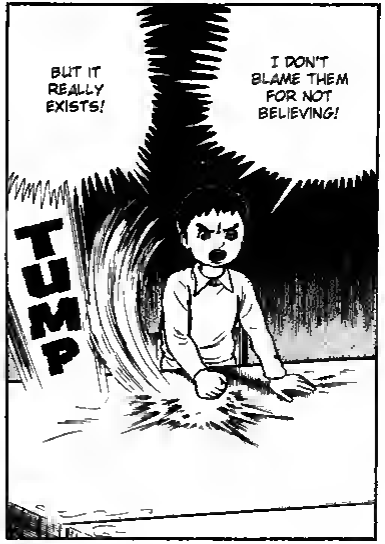


THE PROBLEM IS, EVERYONE THINKS WE WERE LYING.


YOU'RE RIGHT! BUT WHAT?

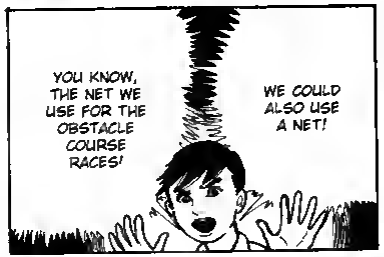

LOTS OF PEOPLE THINK THAT. I DIDN'T SEE IT... BUT IF YOU GUYS SAY IT'S REAL ..
YEAH


THE FOREST WHERE IT LIVES ISN'T FAR AWAY!

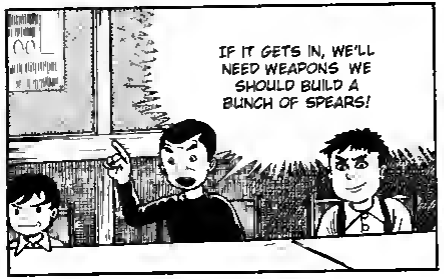

BUT IT REALLY EXISTS!
I DON'T BLAME THEM FOR NOT BELIEVING!
TUMP

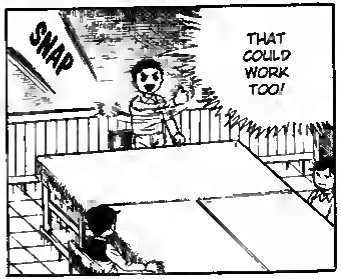
WE HAVE TO FIGURE OUT A WAY TO KILL IT!
IF IT ATTACKS US WE'LL ALL BE IN TROUBLE!

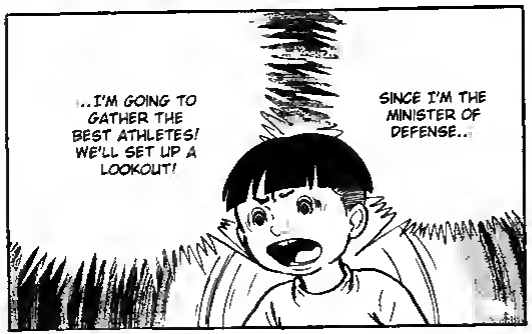
HOW ABOUT IF WE BUILD A TRAP?! WE CAN SET UP GIANT STAKES TO FALL ON ANYTHING THAT COMES THROUGH THE GATE!

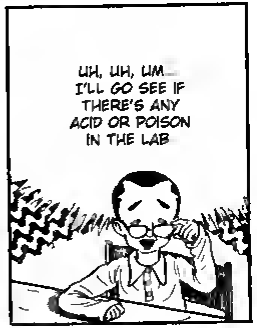

YOU KNOW, THE NET WE USE FOR THE OBSTACLE COURSE RACES!
WE COULD ALSO USE A NET!

SNAP
GOOD IDEA!

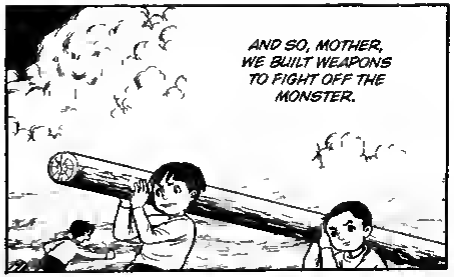

IF IT GETS IN, WE'LL NEED WEAPONS WE SHOULD BUILD A BUNCH OF SPEARS!

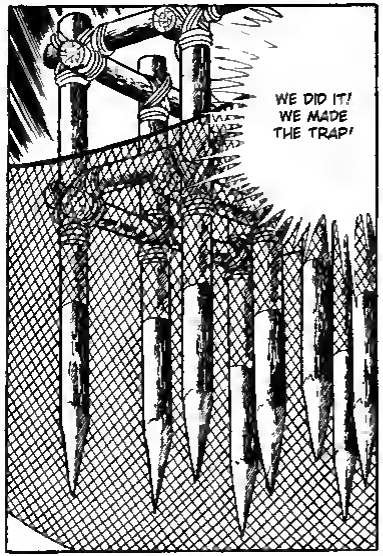

SNAP
THAT COULD WORK TOO!

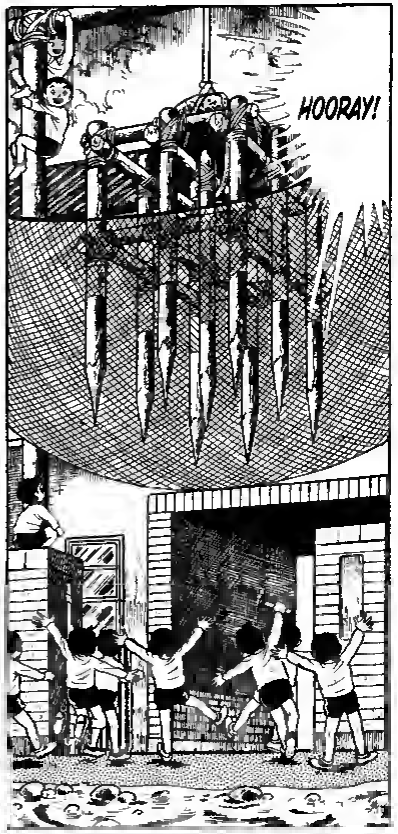

..I'M GOING TO GATHER THE BEST ATHLETES! WE'LL SET UP A LOOKOUT!
SINCE I'M THE MINISTER OF DEFENSE..

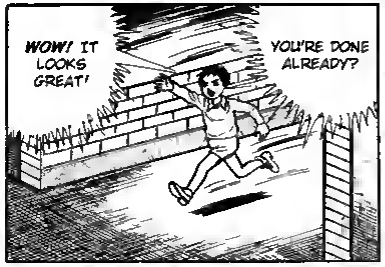

UH, UH, UM... I'LL GO SEE IF THERE'S ANY ACID OR POISON IN THE LAB

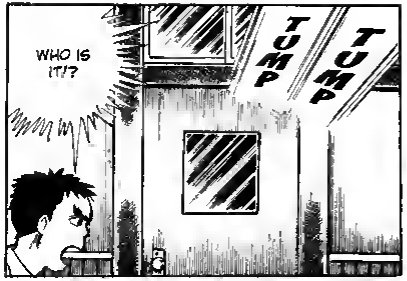
KLANG
KLANG
KLANG


AND SO, MOTHER, WE BUILT WEAPONS TO FIGHT OFF THE MONSTER.

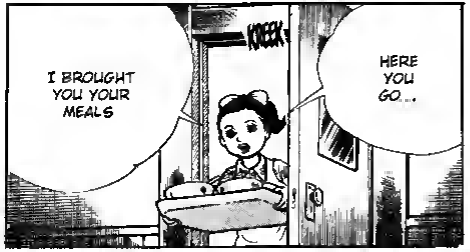

WE DID IT! WE MADE THE TRAP!

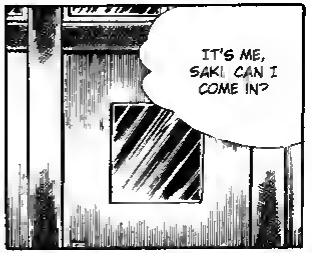

HOORAY!


WOW! IT LOOKS GREAT!
YOU'RE DONE ALREADY?


WHO IS IT!?
TUMP
TUMP

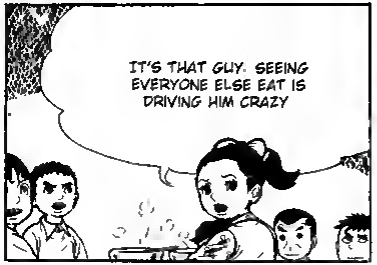
SINCE I'M MINISTER OF CONSTRUCTION, I'LL GET PEOPLE WHO ARE GOOD WITH TOOLS. WE'LL BUILD A STAKE TRAP THAT'LL KILL THAT THING!


I BROUGHT YOU YOUR MEALS
KNOCK
HERE YOU GO...


IT'S ME, SAKI. CAN I COME IN?

UNGGH

UWAAA

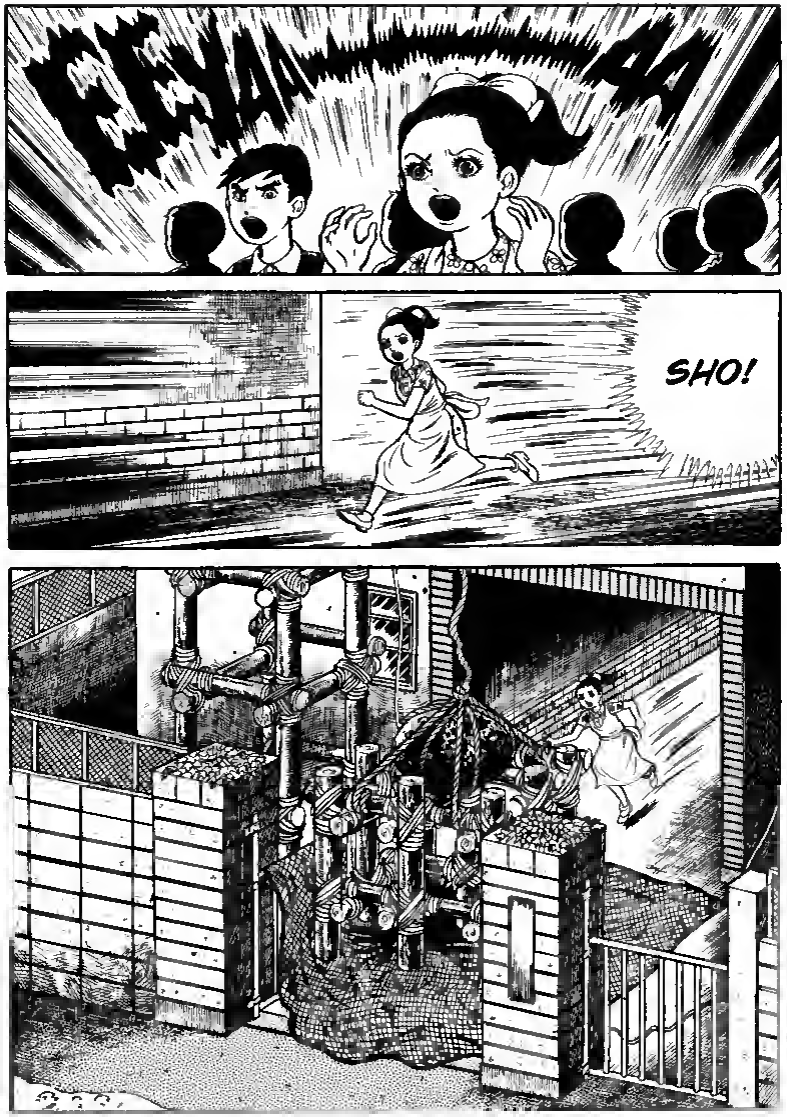

IT'S THAT GUY. SEEING EVERYONE ELSE EAT IS DRIVING HIM CRAZY

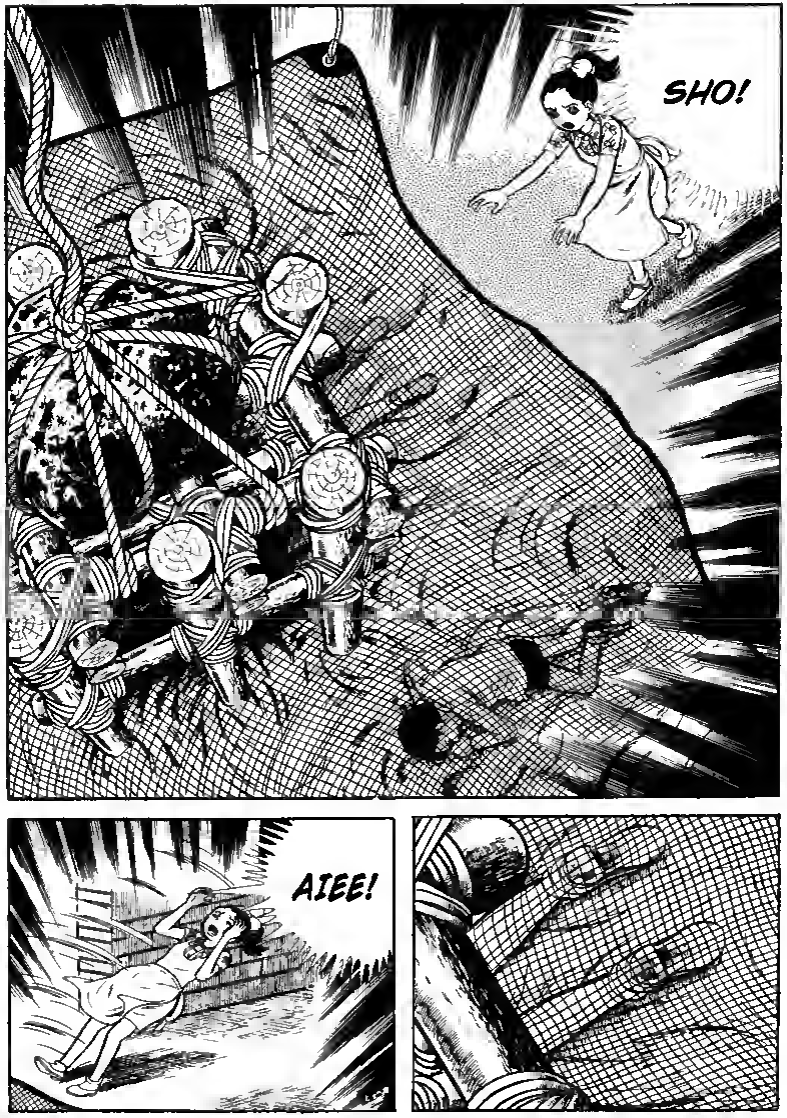
HUH ?!
THAT STARVING KID ESCAPED!
SAK!
SHO! OTOMO! COME QUICK!
WH- WHAT'S THAT?!
AGGHH
MNCH
MNCH
IF WE GET ANY CLOSER HE MIGHT HEAD FOR THE TRAP! HE'S THE ONLY ONE WHO DOESN'T KNOW ABOUT IT!
AH!
HE'S OVER THERE!
YOU'RE HIS CLASSMATES! WHY DID YOU LET HIM GO?
HE RAN OFF WITH THE ENTIRE FOOD CONTAINER!
WE EVEN GAVE HIM OUR FOOD SO HE'D BE FULL!
HE SEEMED SO HUNGRY. WE JUST FELT TOO SORRY FOR HIM!
B-BUT HE LOOKED LIKE HE WAS GOING TO DIE...HE SOUNDED SO AWFUL... I COULDN'T HELP IT!

WHAT DO YOU MEAN!?
WHAT!?
STOP, SHO! THAT SPOT'S BOOBY-TRAPPED!
EVERY NIGHT WE PUT GUARDS ON THE ROOFTOP.
IF YOU STEP ON THE GROUND UNDER THE STAKES, THEY'LL FALL ON TOP OF YOU! IT TOOK AGES TO SET IT UP!
BUT THE MONSTER DIDN'T SHOW UP THE NEXT DAY OR THE DAY AFTER THAT.
STILL ?!
THEY'RE SAYING WE LIED ABOUT THE MONSTER!
HUH?
PEOPLE ARE STARTING TO SAY STUFF.
SHO .

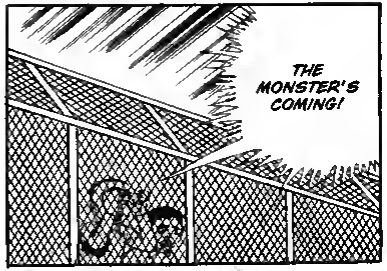
EEYAAA!
YOU'LL GET KILLED!
THE GATE'S TRAPPED!
STOP!
PLOOP!
KABAM
OOOSH
WAAGH!

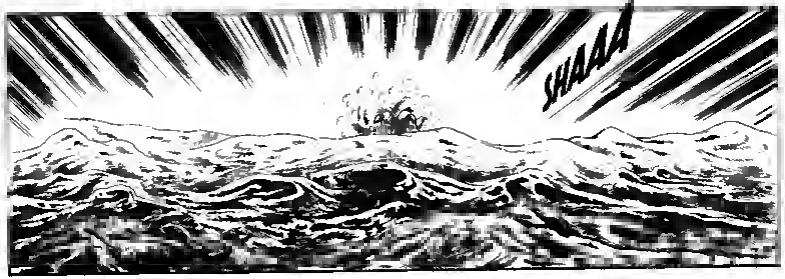
NAKATA! COME OVER HERE!
IT USED TO BE THAT NAKATA WAS SO PICKY, HE DIDN'T EVEN EAT MUCH..
I DON'T UNDER-STAND WHAT'S WRONG WITH HIM!
I TOLD YOU NOT TO LET HIM GO!
YOU IDIOTS!
KLANK
UNHH!
GULP
MNCH MNCH
D-DON'T HURT ME!
AAGH!
COME HERE! IT'S OKAY!
AGGHH!
I'M SO HUNGRY. I COULDN'T HELP IT!
I'M SORRY! FORGIVE ME!


EEYAAAAAA
SHO!


SHO!
AIEE!

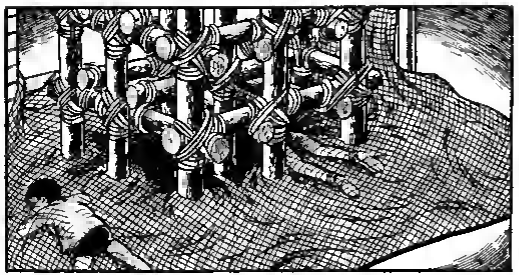
AGGGHH!

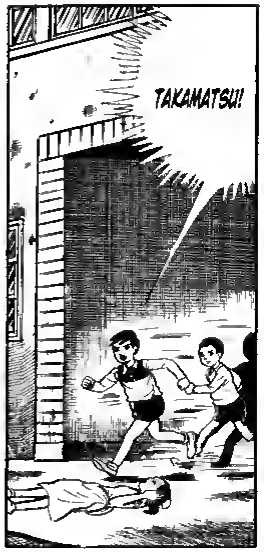

THE MONSTER'S COMING!

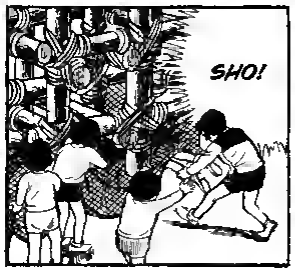

SHAAA

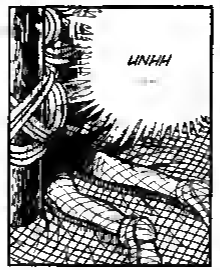
SHAAA

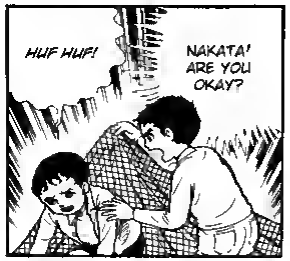
SHAAA
CHAPTER 15
THE MONSTER ATTACKS

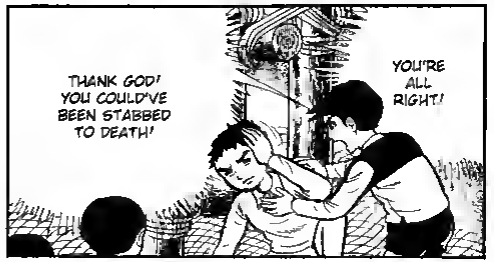


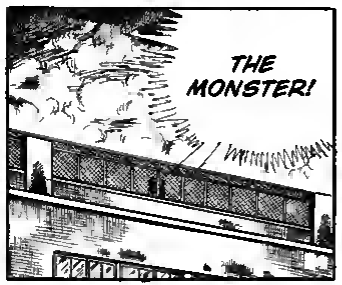

TAKAMATSU!


SHO!


UNHH


HUF HUF!
NAKATA! ARE YOU OKAY?


THANK GOD! YOU COULD'VE BEEN STABBED TO DEATH!
YOU'RE ALL RIGHT!


THE MONSTER!

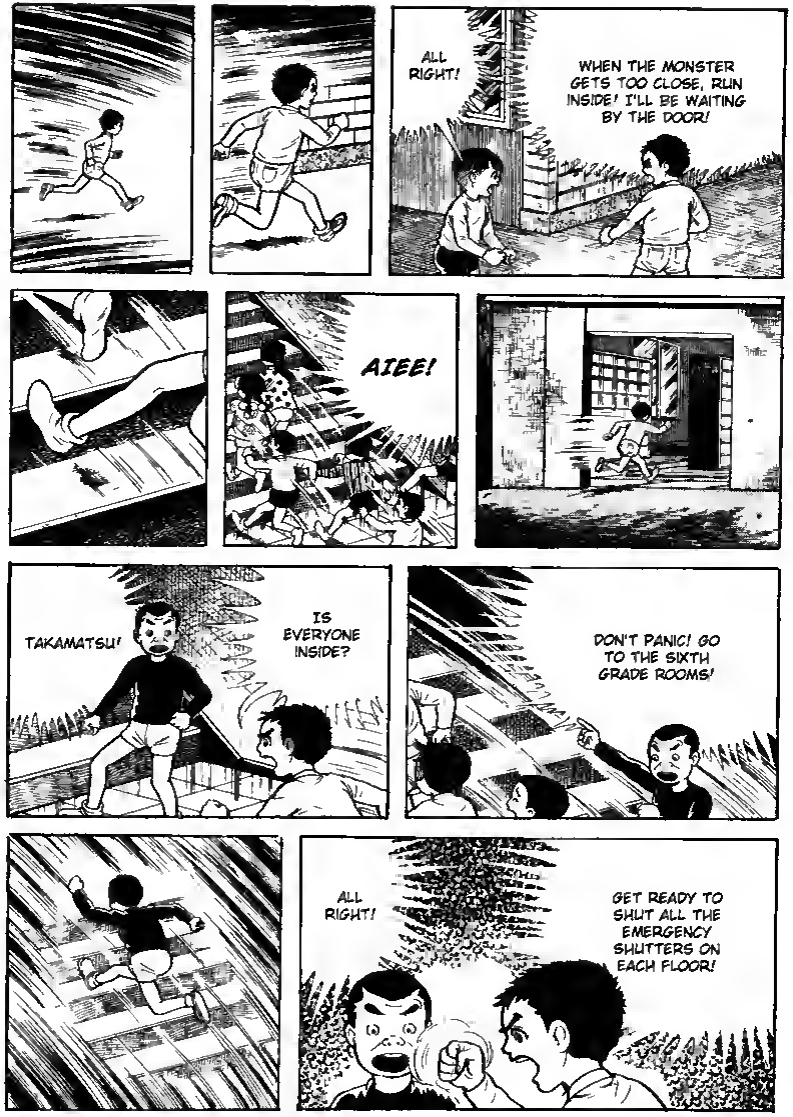
YOU RISKED YOUR LIFE FOR ME...!

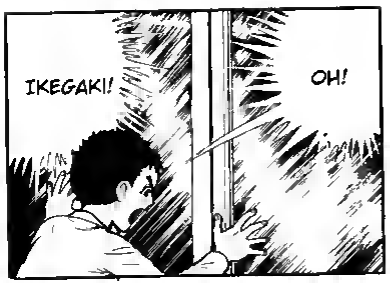
I'M SO SORRY IF YOU HADN'T SHOVED ME I WOULD HAVE .!

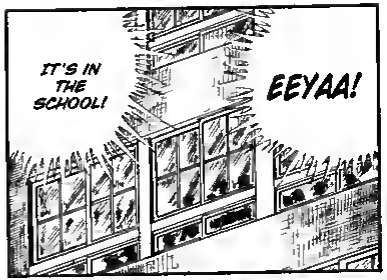
THE MONSTER'S COMING!
KRASH
IT'S REAL!
SHAAA
OH NO!
MONSTER!
THE MONSTER'S COMING!
EVERYONE, GET INSIDE THE BUILDING!
AGGH!
SHAAA
IT'S COMING RIGHT TOWARDS US!
ALL THAT WORK FOR NOTHING...!
O-OH NO!
EEYAA!

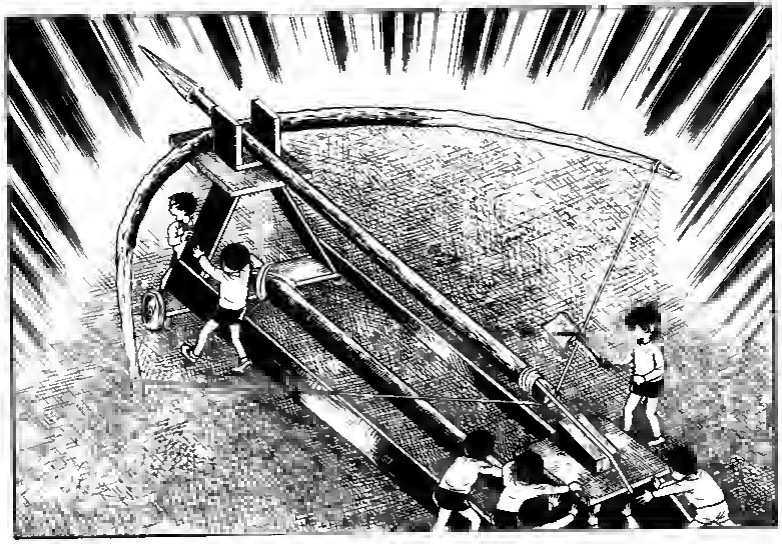
IKEGAKI!
TAKAMATSU!
I'LL TAKE CARE OF THIS!
YOU HAVE TO GO INSIDE!
I COMMAND YOU TO GO!
IT'S MY DUTY AS MINISTER OF DEFENSE!
NO, I WANT TO HELP!
IKEGAKI!

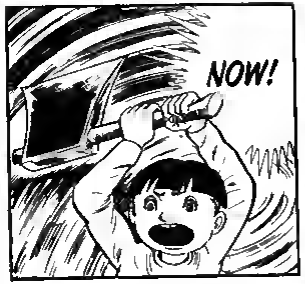
EEEYAA!
IT'S HEADED FOR THE GATE!
STOP CRYING! THE MONSTER WILL FIND US!
DON'T CRY!
WAAH
WAAH
SHAA
SHAA
SHAA


ALL RIGHT!
WHEN THE MONSTER GETS TOO CLOSE, RUN INSIDE! I'LL BE WAITING BY THE DOOR!
AIEE!
TAKAMATSU!
IS EVERYONE INSIDE?
DON'T PANIC! GO TO THE SIXTH GRADE ROOMS!
ALL RIGHT!
GET READY TO SHUT ALL THE EMERGENCY SHUTTERS ON EACH FLOOR!

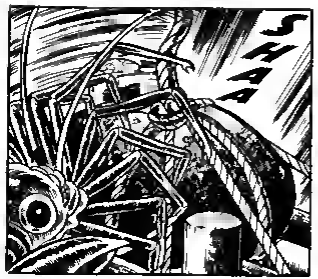

IKEGAKI!
OH!


IT'S IN THE SCHOOL!
EEYAA!




NOW!

WAIT 'TILL IT GETS CLOSER!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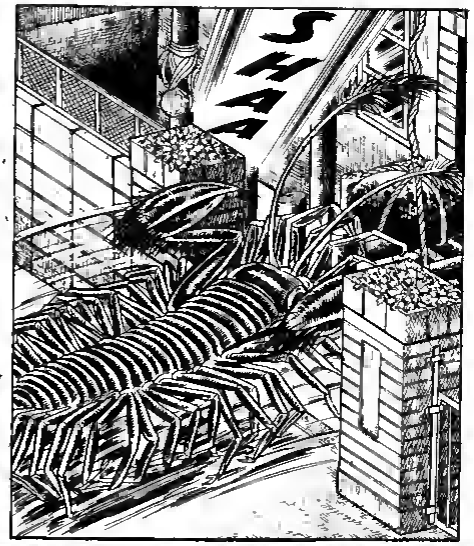
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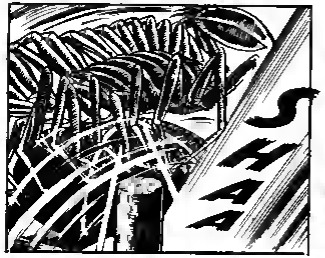
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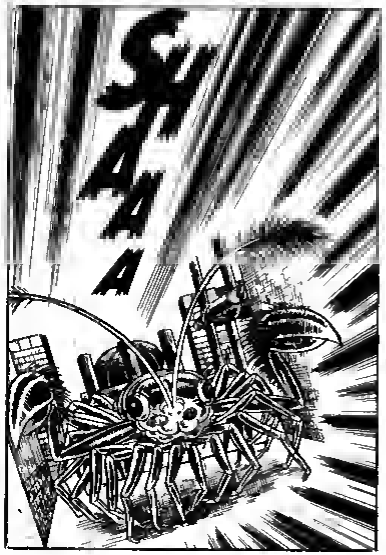
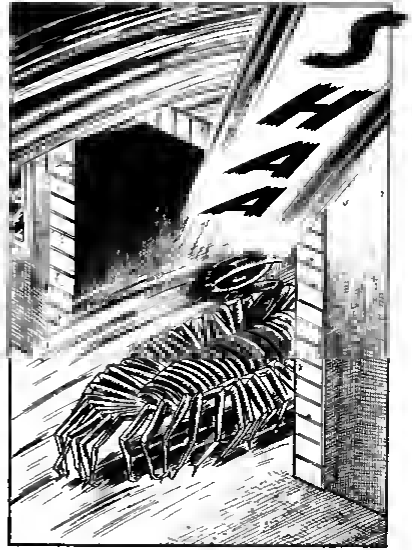

SHAAA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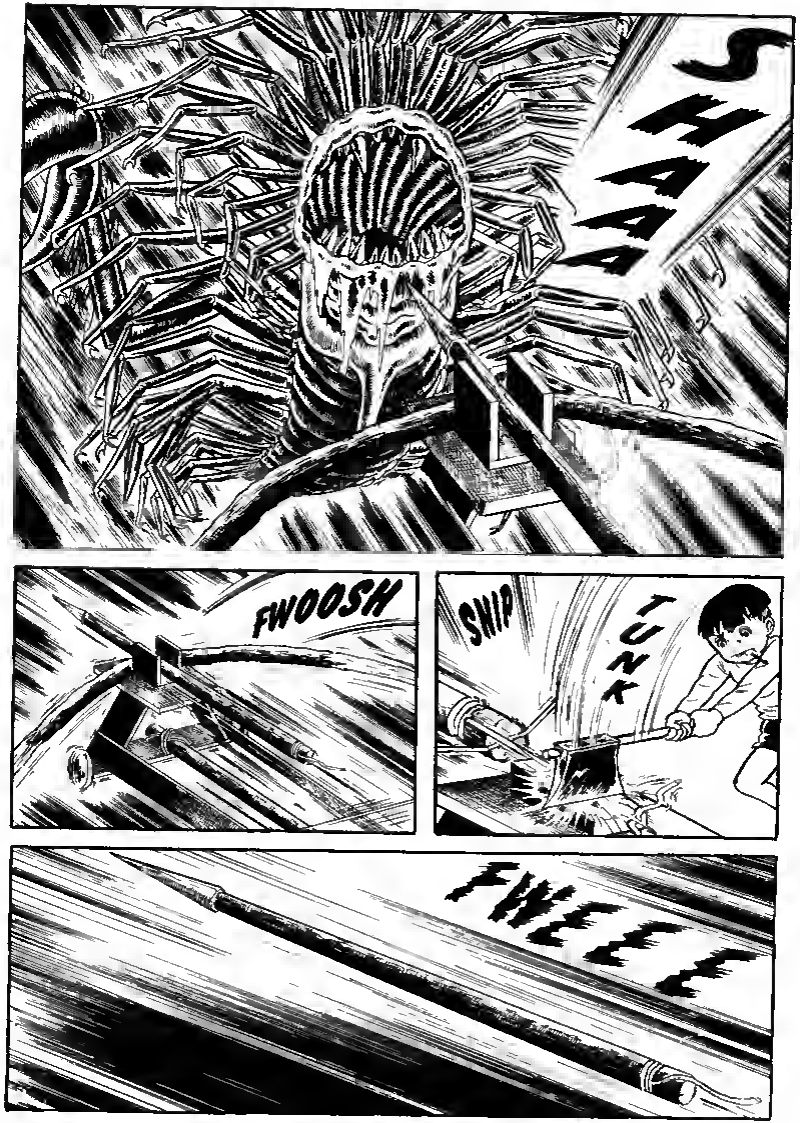
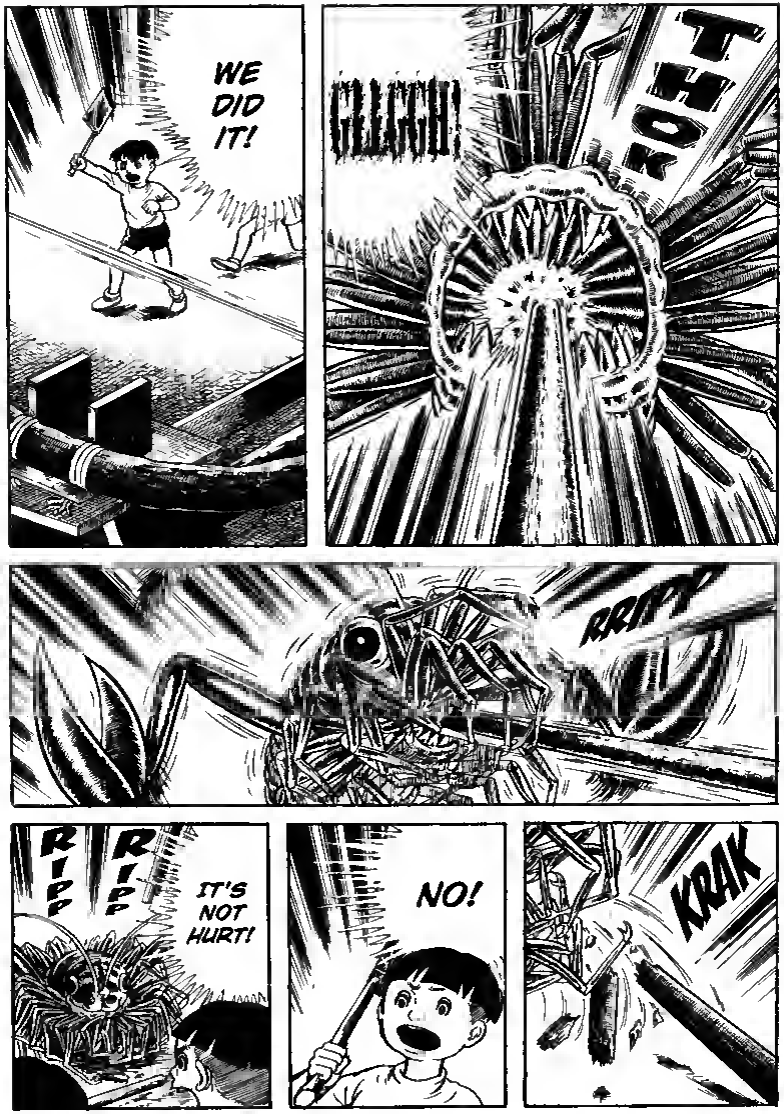
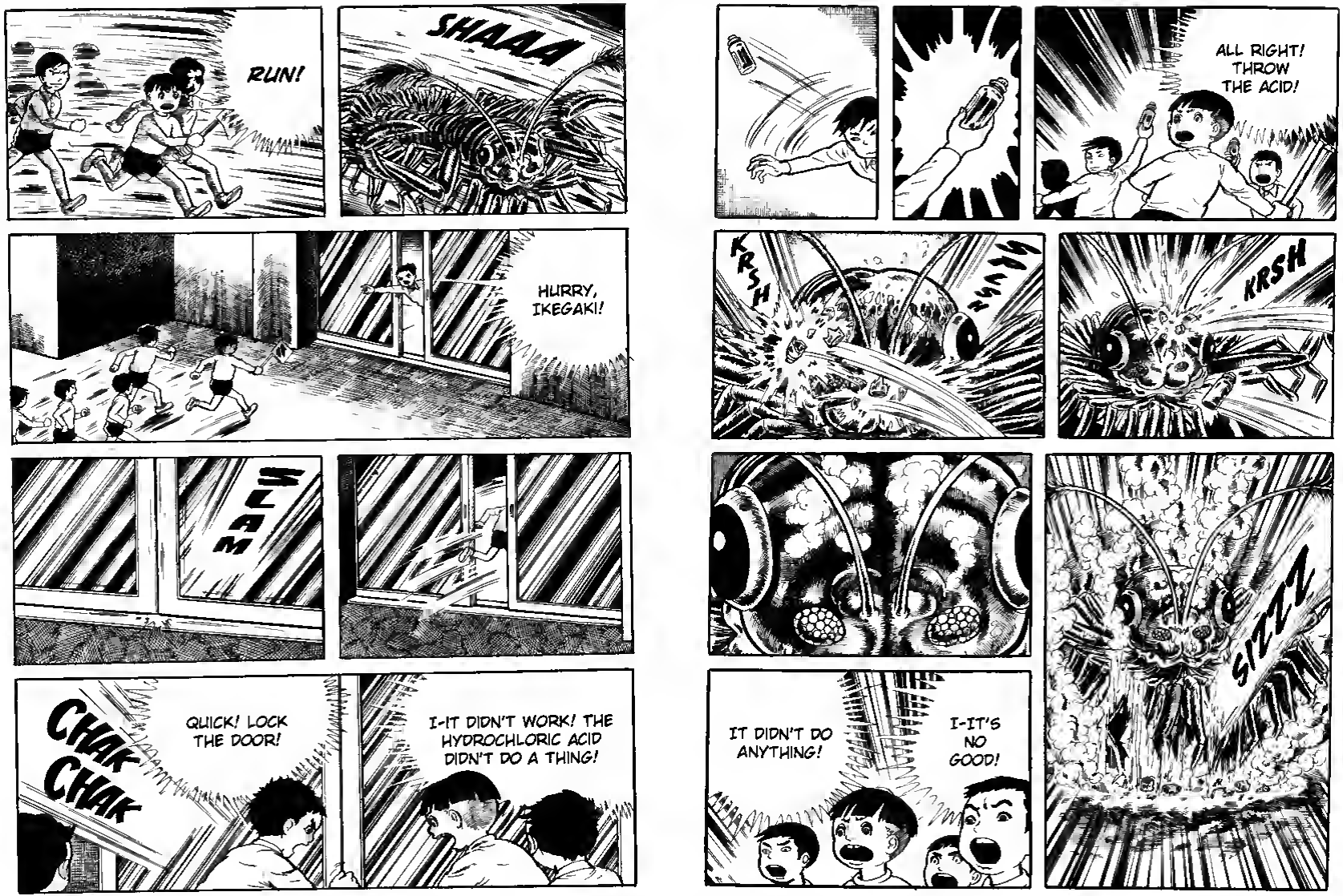

SHAAA
FWOOSH
SNIP
TUNK
FWEEE


WE DID IT!
GLLGGH!
THOK
RRRR
RIPP
RIPP
IT'S NOT HURT!
NO!
KRAK

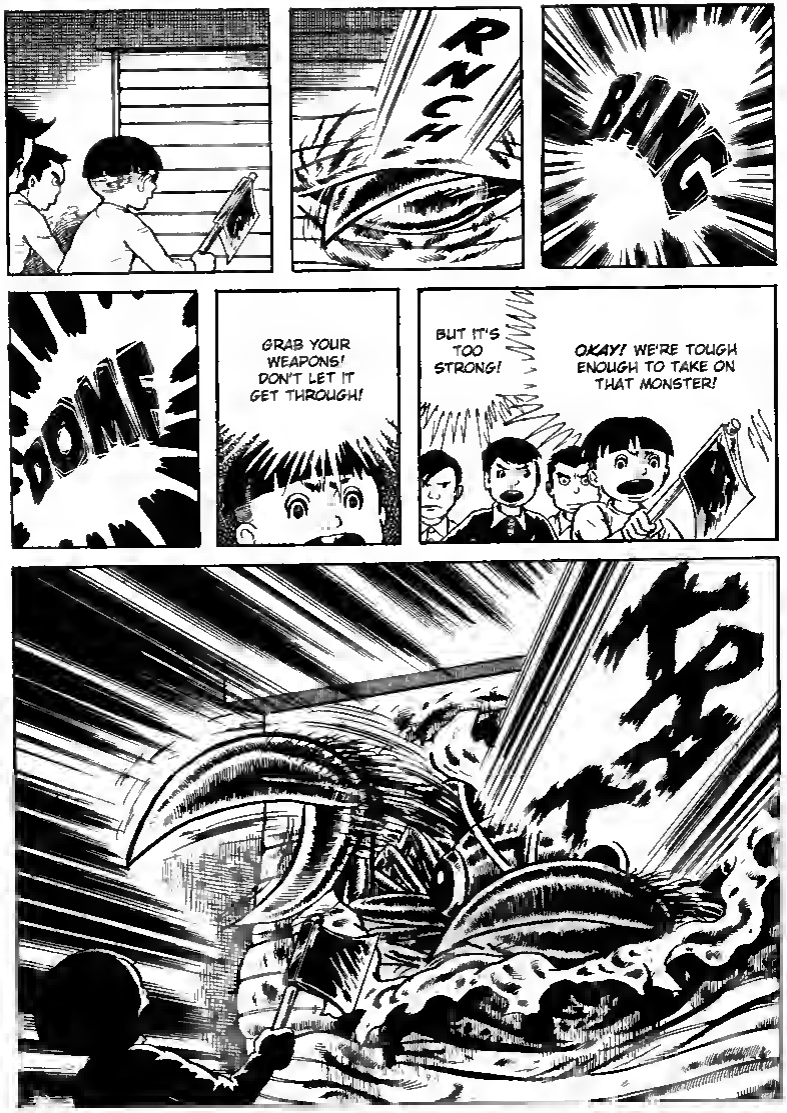

ALL RIGHT! THROW THE ACID!
KRSH
SIZZL
IT DIDN'T DO ANYTHING!
I-IT'S NO GOOD!
RUN!
SHAAA
HURRY, IKEGAKI!
HUFF
CHAK CHAK
QUICK! LOCK THE DOOR!
I-IT DIDN'T WORK! THE HYDROCHLORIC ACID DIDN'T DO A THING!

SHAA
WHAM
RATTLE
KRIKK
THUD
GET UPSTAIRS!
UWAAH!
DROP THE SHUTTER!
SHO!

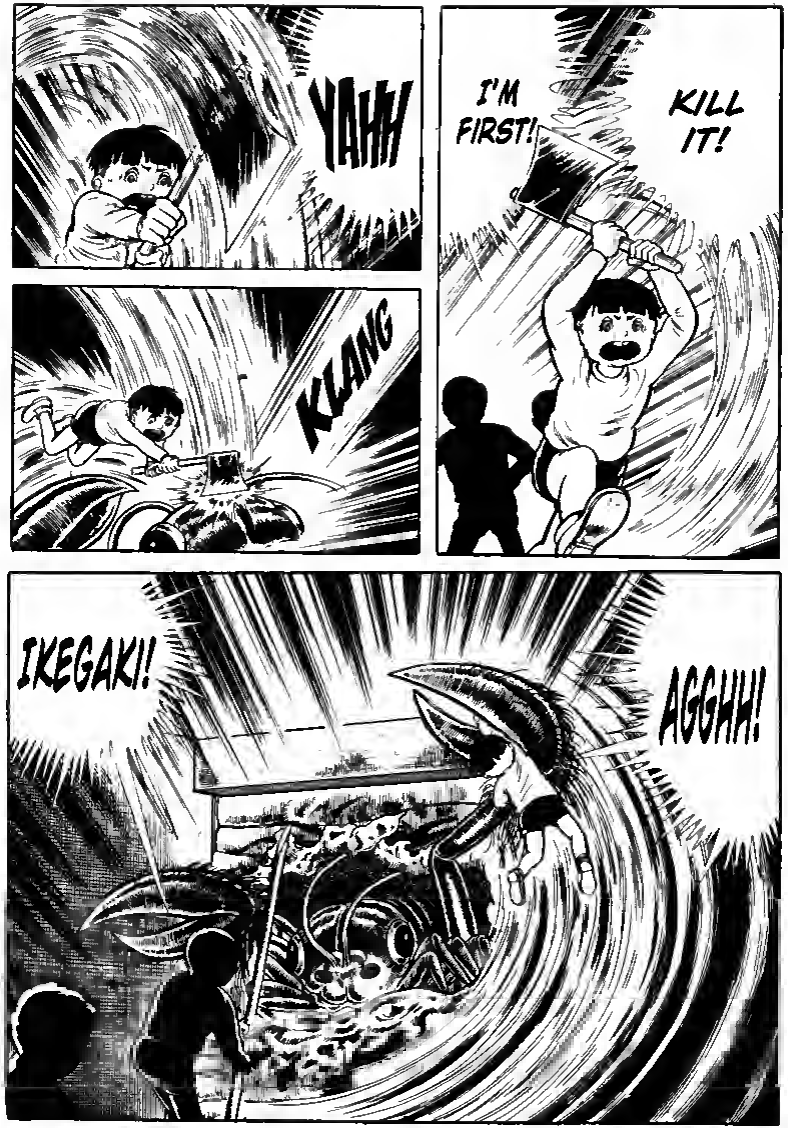
IT'S COMING!
SHAA
AAGGH!
KRASH
SLAM
SHAAA
IT BROKE THROUGH!
SKREE
CLOSE THE EMERGENCY SHUTTERS ON THE FIRST FLOOR!
EEYAA!

PULL DOWN THE DOOR AND BARRICADE IT WITH THE DESKS!
SHO! GO UPSTAIRS!
AGGH!
THUD
IF I DON'T MAKE IT, YOU HAVE TO FIGHT IT ON THE THIRD FLOOR!
DO IT! I'M THE DEFENSE MINISTER! FOLLOW MY ORDERS!
BUT THEN YOU WON'T BE ABLE TO--
SHO! I'M SCARED!
COME ON, SAKI!
OKAY!
RATTLE
COME ON, YU!

IT'S TEARING THROUGH THE SHUTTER ON THE FIRST FLOOR!
RIP KRIK
WHAMM
THEY'RE UP ON THE THIRD FLOOR SCREAMING AND CRYING!
WAIT! WHERE'S YU? WHERE'S EVERYONE ELSE?
WHAT SHOULD WE DO!?
IT'S NOT GOING TO HOLD!
SHO!
THE FIRST FLOOR DOOR'S GONE!
SMASH
IT'S COMING UPSTAIRS!
SHAA
PLEASE GOD, DON'T LET IT CLIMB THE STAIRS! MAKE IT GO TO THE FACULTY ROOM!

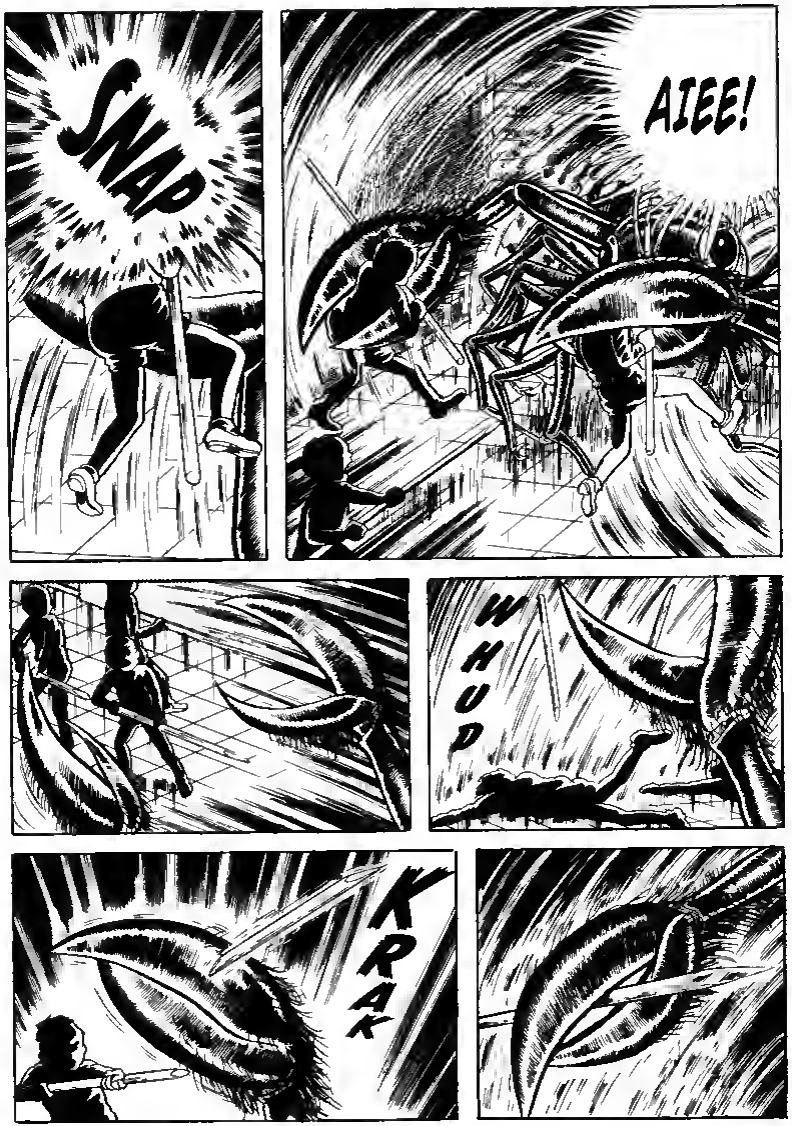

RNCH
BANG
DOME
GRAB YOUR WEAPONS! DON'T LET IT GET THROUGH!
BUT IT'S TOO STRONG!
OKAY! WE'RE TOUGH ENOUGH TO TAKE ON THAT MONSTER!

BANG
SLAMM
IKEGAKI!
HANG IN THERE!
IKEGAKI!
SOB..!
SAME TO YOU, TAKAMATSU! I'M LEAVING THE REST UP TO YOU!
TUMP
TUMP
ALL RIGHT!
ALL RIGHT! EVERYBODY IN THE SIXTH GRADE, BARRICADE THIS WITH TABLES AND DESKS!


YAHH
I'M FIRST!
KILL IT!
KLANG
IKEGAKI!
AGGHH!

GYAAA!
RIPP
IKEGAKI!
WHUOO
NNNYAA!
M-MY HAND!

...I'M NOT FINISHED YET!
I..I..
UWAAH
KRAK
THIS ONE'S FOR IKEGAKI!
TUNK


SNAP
AIEE!
WHUD
KRAK

NNAGGH!
AGGH!
D-DON'T GIVE UP! FIGHT TO THE END!

YAHH

IKEGAKI!
KRNCH
AIEEE
NOOO!
WHAT'S HAPPENING DOWN THERE?!

SHO!
FIGHT HARD, EVERYONE! FIGHT HARD!
AGGGHH
RIP SPLK
IF I HADN'T RUN INTO THE TRAP, THE MONSTER WOULD HAVE BEEN STABBED TO DEATH!
I'M SO SORRY. IT'S MY FAULT THE BOOBY TRAP DIDN'T WORK!
THOSE STAKES WOULDN'T HAVE STOPPED THE MONSTER!
STOP CRYING! WHAT'S DONE IS DONE! BESIDES, YOU SAW FOR YOURSELF!
UM, UH... WE HAVE TO COME UP WITH A STRATEGY WHILE IKEGAKI AND THE OTHERS ARE FIGHTING!
T-T-TAKAMATSU!

TAKAMATSU... SHE'S UNCONSCIOUS!
NISHI! IS SHE OKAY?
ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?
SAKI!
WHAT'S IN THOSE JARS?
GAMO!
T-TAKA-MATSU!
Y-YES!
GET HER OUT OF THE HALL! HURRY!
...I DOUBT THIS WILL HAVE ANY EFFECT!
I THOUGHT WE COULD KNOCK THE MONSTER UNCONSCIOUS... BUT GIVEN HOW HYDROCHLORIC AND SULFURIC ACID DIDN'T WORK...
ER... UM...I FOUND THEM IN THE SCIENCE ROOM IT'S NOT THE SPECIMENS I CARE ABOUT... IT'S THE CHLOROFORM!
THEN WHAT ARE WE SUPPOSED TO DO?!
Y-YES, BUT IF THIS DOESN'T WORK WE'RE FINISHED!
WE HAVE TO TRY IT!

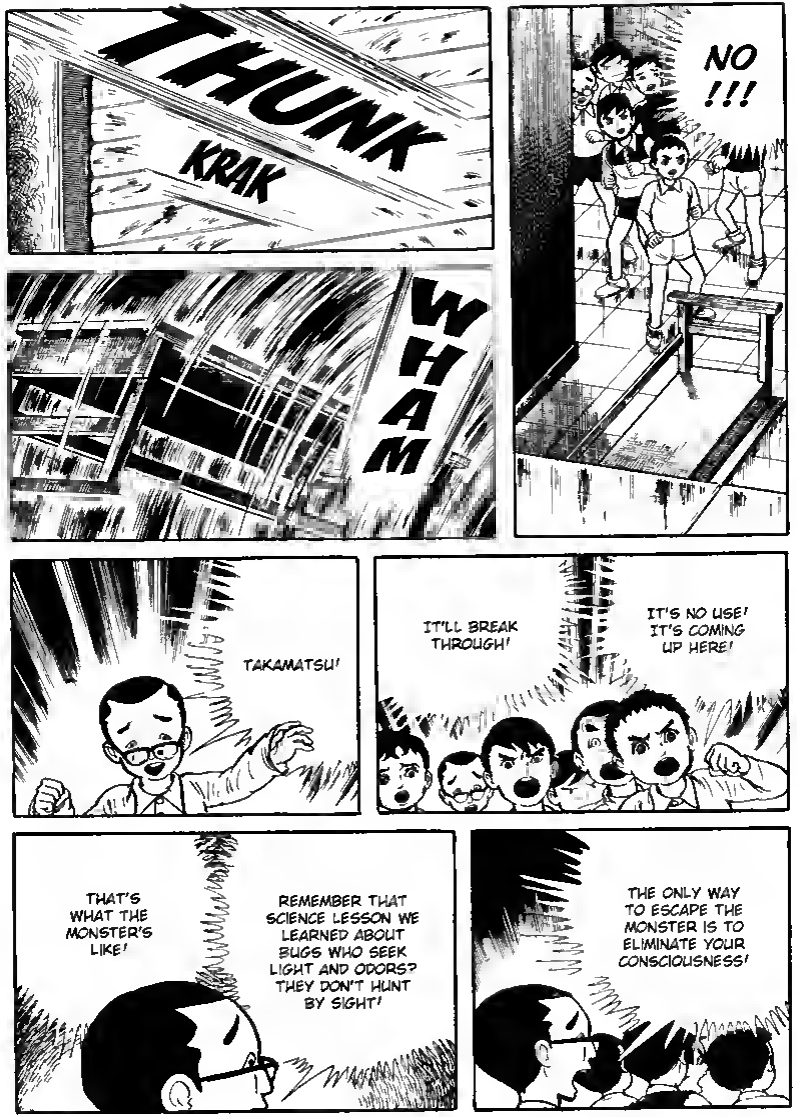
TO BE HONEST, I DON'T KNOW HOW THIS MONSTER CAN EXIST. THEORETICALLY AND SCIENTIFICALLY, IT'S IMPOSSIBLE!
I-I REALLY DIDN'T WANT TO SAY THIS, BUT NOW I HAVE TO!
I-I'VE BEEN MEANING TO TALK TO YOU ABOUT THE MONSTER!
IT'S NOT THAT I DIDN'T TRUST YOU. BUT LIKE THE GANG BOSS GIRL SAID, I DIDN'T THINK ANYTHING THAT BIG COULD LIVE IN THE MIDDLE OF THIS DESERT. THERE'S NO OTHER ANIMALS FOR IT TO EAT!
WHAT?
IN A DESERT THAT DOESN'T EVEN HAVE A SINGLE BLADE OF GRASS!
Y-YOU ALSO SAID YOU SAW TREES, BUT THAT DOESN'T MAKE SENSE EITHER! IT'S IMPOSSIBLE TO HAVE LARGER PLANTS AND TREES.
BUT WE SAW THE TREES! THEY'RE REAL! WE WERE BOTH THERE!
WHAT DO YOU MEAN?

THERE'S SOMETHING ELSE I DON'T UNDERSTAND
L-LET'S NOT ARGUE. WE DON'T HAVE MUCH TIME!
WHAT DO YOU MEAN?!
HUH!?
WAS THERE ANYTHING YOU WERE DOING? OR ANY SPECIAL STATE YOU WERE IN? QUICKLY!
THAT'S WHAT WE NEED TO KNOW
WHY DIDN'T THE MONSTER KILL OTOMO AND SHO? WHY DID IT LEAVE YOU ALONE?
AND I WAS KNOCKED OUT BY AKABANE ..
COME TO THINK OF IT... SEKIYA KNOCKED IKEGAKI OUT TOO!
SEKIYA KNOCKED ME OUT! I DON'T REMEMBER ANYTHING UNTIL I WOKE UP
I'M SO SORRY!
I DID IT! I KNOCKED HIM OUT!
AKABANE!
I'M SORRY! I'M SO SORRY!

I AGREE WITH GAMO...THIS DOESN'T MAKE SENSE!
CALM DOWN, OTOMO!
YOU KNOW HOW I WENT OUT IN THE CAR WITH MR WAKAHARA
THE MONSTER'S REAL! WHAT DO YOU MEAN!?
WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?
BUT THERE WAS NOTHING THERE!
WE WERE LOOKING FOR ANY FORM OF LIFE! GRASS, TREES, ANYTHING!
WE DROVE THROUGH THE PLACE WHERE THE FOREST IS!
NO! I SAW OUR TIRE TRACKS!
YOU'RE WRONG! YOU MUST HAVE DRIVEN THROUGH A DIFFERENT PLACE!
HUH!?

WHAT WAS SEKIYA DOING?!
SLEEPY TIME!
SLEEPY TIME!
IT'S ALL RIGHT, AKABANE!
WHAT AN IMBECILE!
HEY, HE'S YAWNING!
YAAWN!
MAYBE SEKIYA'S STATE OF REGRESSION IS IDENTICAL TO BEING UNCONSCIOUS!
HE'S ASLEEP!
ZZZ... SNNKK...
TASHIRO ATTACKED THE MONSTER!
WHAT ABOUT TASHIRO? HE WAS THE ONLY ONE WHO GOT KILLED!
THAT'S WHY HE...?!
BUT I RAN AWAY!
THEN IT ATE HIM!
THE ONES WHO WERE UNCONSCIOUS WERE SPARED, AND THE ONES WHO WERE AWAKE WERE EATEN!
IT'S OBVIOUS!
I-I GET IT!
THUD
IT'S COMING!
SHAAA
BANG!

KUSHAKA
THUNK
KRAK
BAMM
YES!
SO YOU WANT US ALL TO FAINT?!
YOU HAVE TO!
WAKE UP, SAKI!
AGGH!
WHAT?!
NO! LEAVE HER THE WAY SHE IS!
NNHH .


THUNK
KRAK
NO !!!
WHAM
TAKAMATSU!
IT'LL BREAK THROUGH!
IT'S NO USE! IT'S COMING UP HERE!
THAT'S WHAT THE MONSTER'S LIKE!
REMEMBER THAT SCIENCE LESSON WE LEARNED ABOUT BUGS WHO SEEK LIGHT AND ODORS? THEY DON'T HUNT BY SIGHT!
THE ONLY WAY TO ESCAPE THE MONSTER IS TO ELIMINATE YOUR CONSCIOUSNESS!

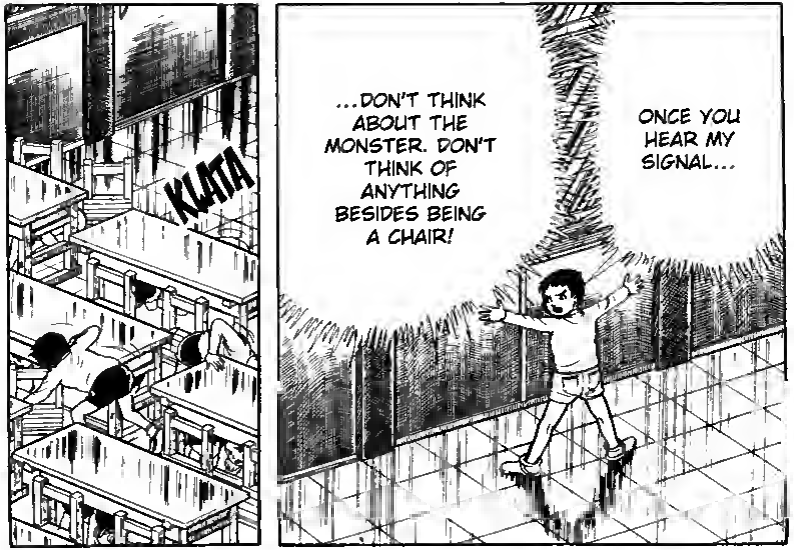
WAAH!
WAAH!
SHFF
OKAY!
YOU TAKE CARE OF THE OTHER CLASSES!
AIEE!
QUICK!
IT'LL PUT YOU TO SLEEP! THIS WILL SAVE YOU!
ALL RIGHT, FIRST GRADERS! SNIFF THIS MEDICINE!
TO--!!
AGGH!
NO! IT SMELLS BAD!
NO! I DON'T WANT TO! I DON'T WANT--
COME ON! SMELL IT!

BUT THIS ISN'T ENOUGH!
CHLORO-FORM!?
WE'LL HAVE EVERYONE SMELL THIS CHLOROFORM! THAT'LL KNOCK THEM OUT!
KLATTER
THUD
WHAT ABOUT THE ONES WHO WON'T GET ANY?
W-WE'LL START WITH THE LOWER GRADERS! WE'LL SOAK IT INTO THEIR CLOTHES!
WAHH
WAHH
LISTEN! THE LITTLE KIDS ARE SCREAMING! WE HAVE TO TAKE CARE OF THEM NOW!
WE DON'T HAVE TIME TO THINK ABOUT THIS!
ALL RIGHT!
EVERYBODY TAKE SOME CHLOROFORM! HELP ME!
WAHH
WAHH

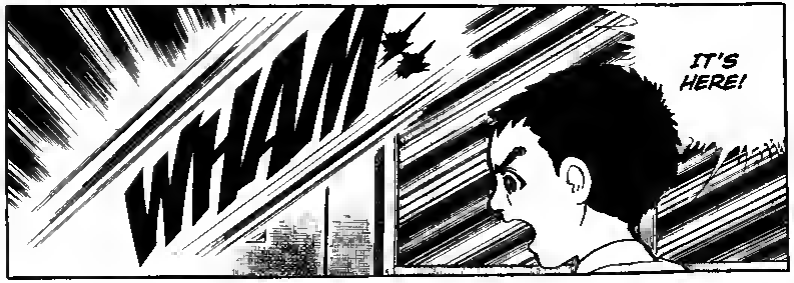
UNGH ...!
AIEE!
AIEEE!
OHH..!
WAAH! WAAH!
NO! I DON'T WANT TO SMELL IT!
IT WON'T HURT YOU!
WAIT!
AAGH AAGH
SIXTH GRADERS! HELP ME CATCH THE THIRD GRADERS!
HE JUST FELL ASLEEP! IF YOU DON'T SLEEP, THE MONSTER WILL EAT YOU!
NO! NO!
WE HAVE TO HURRY!
MMGH!
WAAH!
NO! HELP ME!

WHAT DO WE DO ABOUT EVERYONE ELSE?!
WE DID IT!
HOW'D IT GO!?
WE HAVE TO *STOP THINKING!*
WE'RE OUT OF CHLORO-FORM!
OR WE'LL *DIE!*
WE HAVE TO THINK OF *NOTHING!* WE HAVE TO BLANK OUT OUR MINDS!
H-HE'S RIGHT!
WHAT!?

GGGH... GG
MMGH!
IT'S ALL RIGHT! IT'S JUST SLEEP MEDICINE!
WAHH
WAHH
WAAH! WAAH!
NO!
OKAY!
HELP ME OUT! SOAK A TOWEL WITH THIS!
WITH THE HELP OF THE SIXTH GRADERS, WE PUT THE FIRST THROUGH THIRD GRADERS TO SLEEP.
NNHH!
MMPF ...!

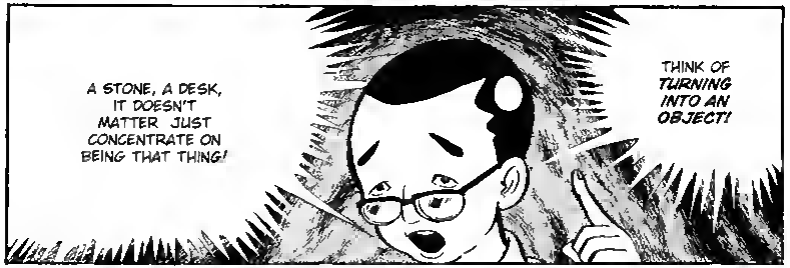

KLATA
...DON'T THINK ABOUT THE MONSTER. DON'T THINK OF ANYTHING BESIDES BEING A CHAIR!
ONCE YOU HEAR MY SIGNAL...

RIPP

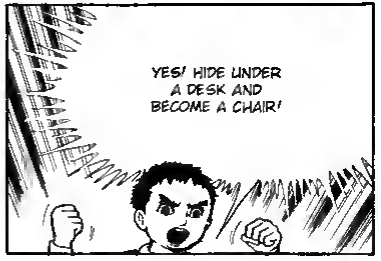

WHAM!
IT'S HERE!

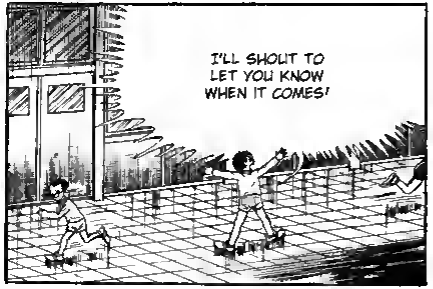
TH...TH...THEN WHAT ABOUT THIS?

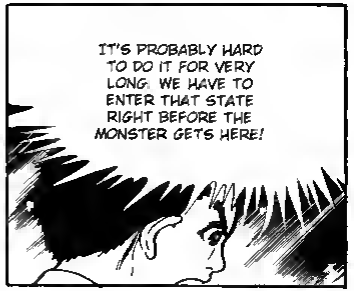
BUT THAT'S IMPOSSIBLE!

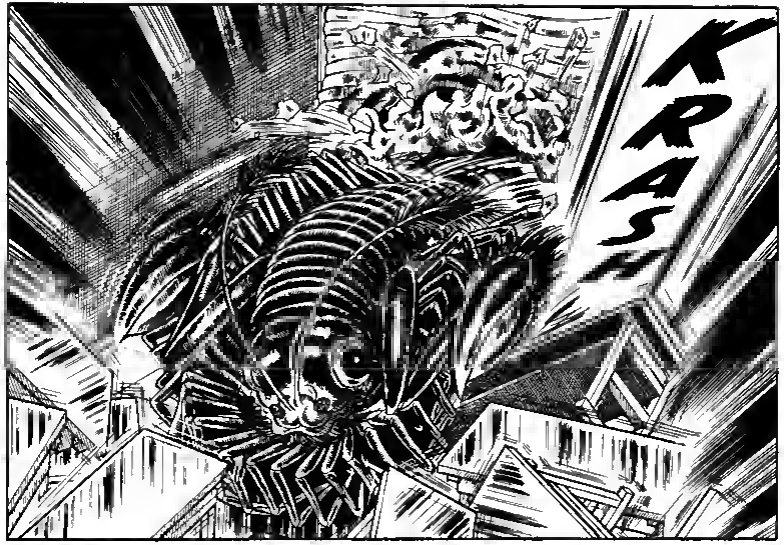

A STONE, A DESK, IT DOESN'T MATTER JUST CONCENTRATE ON BEING THAT THING!
THINK OF *TURNING INTO AN OBJECT!*

OKAY!
TELL EVERYONE! IT'S OUR ONLY CHANCE!


YES! HIDE UNDER A DESK AND BECOME A CHAIR!

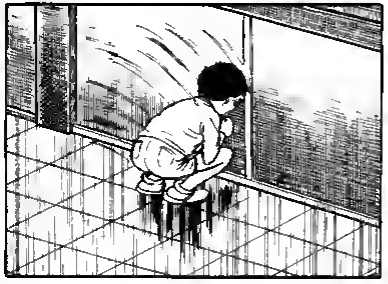

I'LL SHOUT TO LET YOU KNOW WHEN IT COMES!

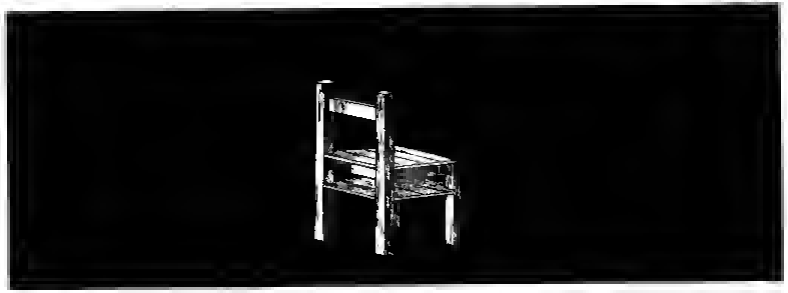

IT'S PROBABLY HARD TO DO IT FOR VERY LONG. WE HAVE TO ENTER THAT STATE RIGHT BEFORE THE MONSTER GETS HERE!

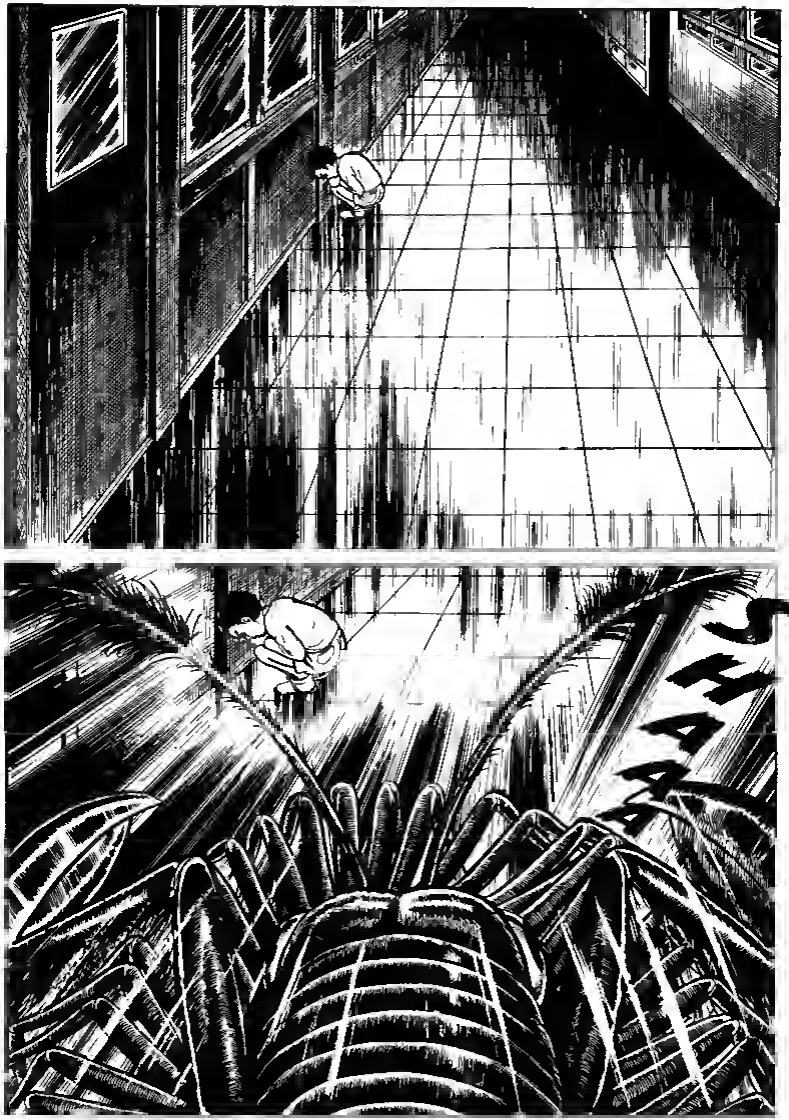

KRASH

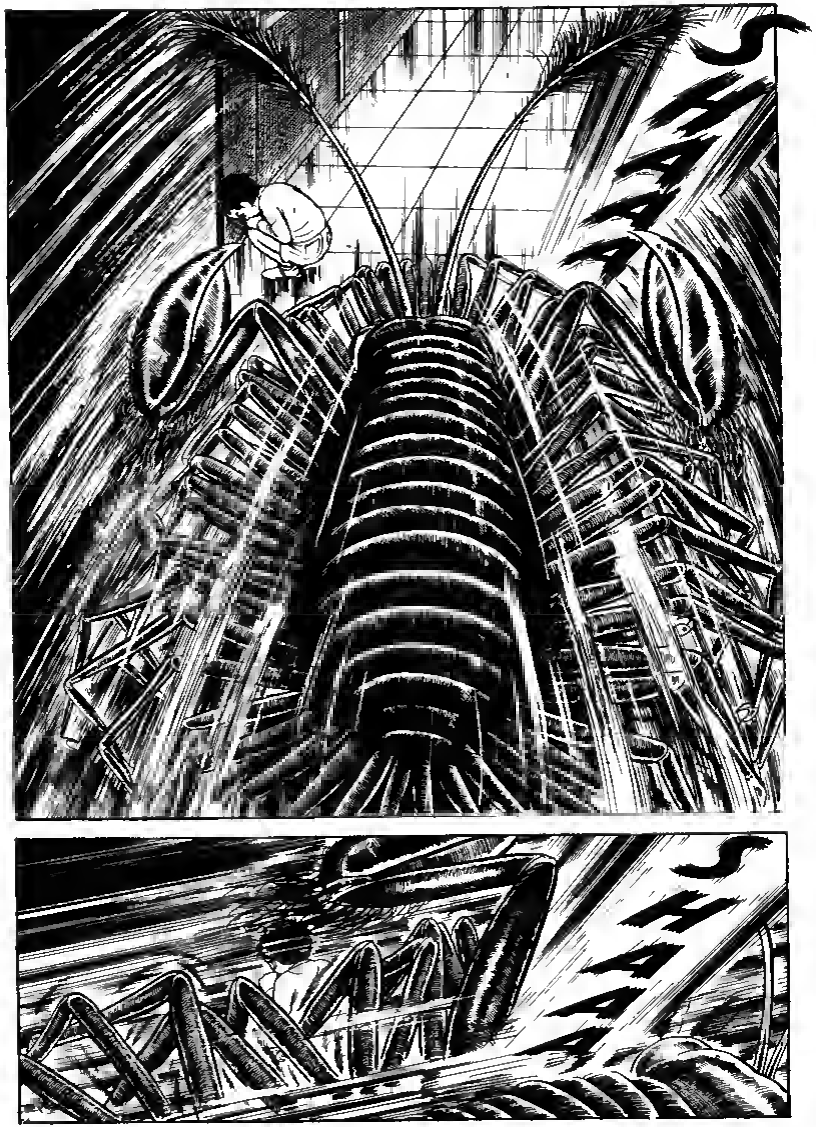
ONE, TWO, THREE!

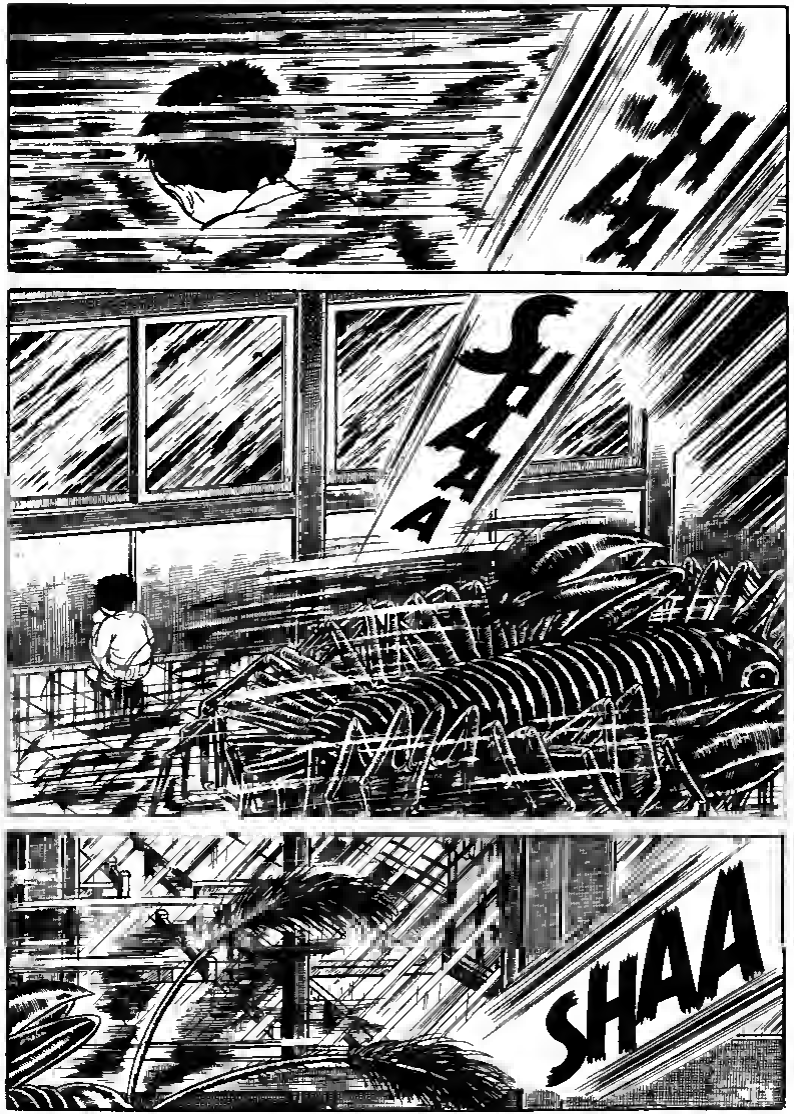
BECOME A CHAIR!



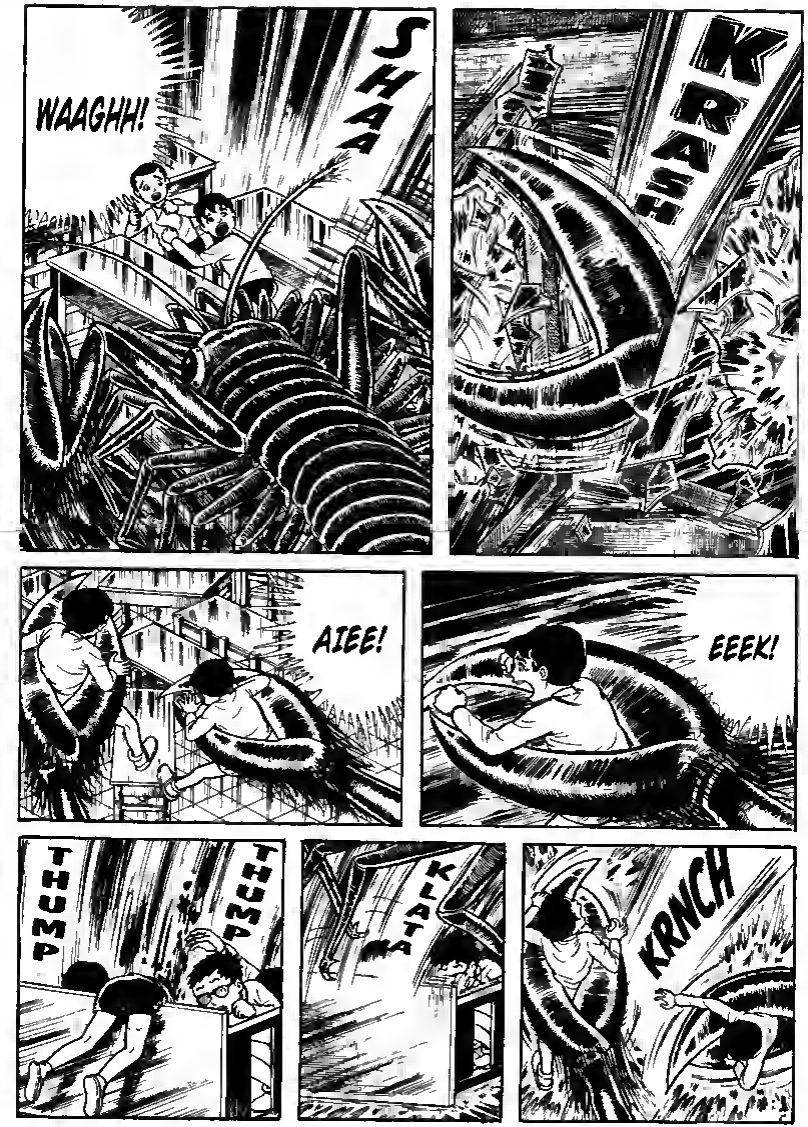


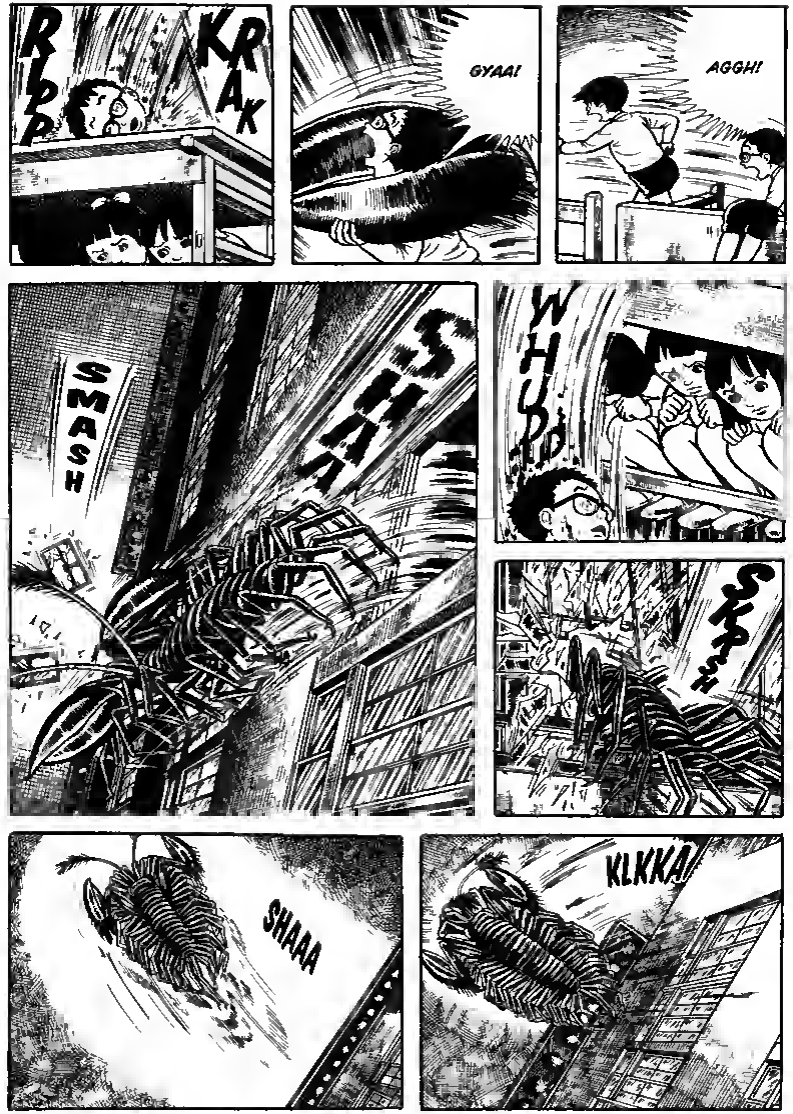

SHAAA

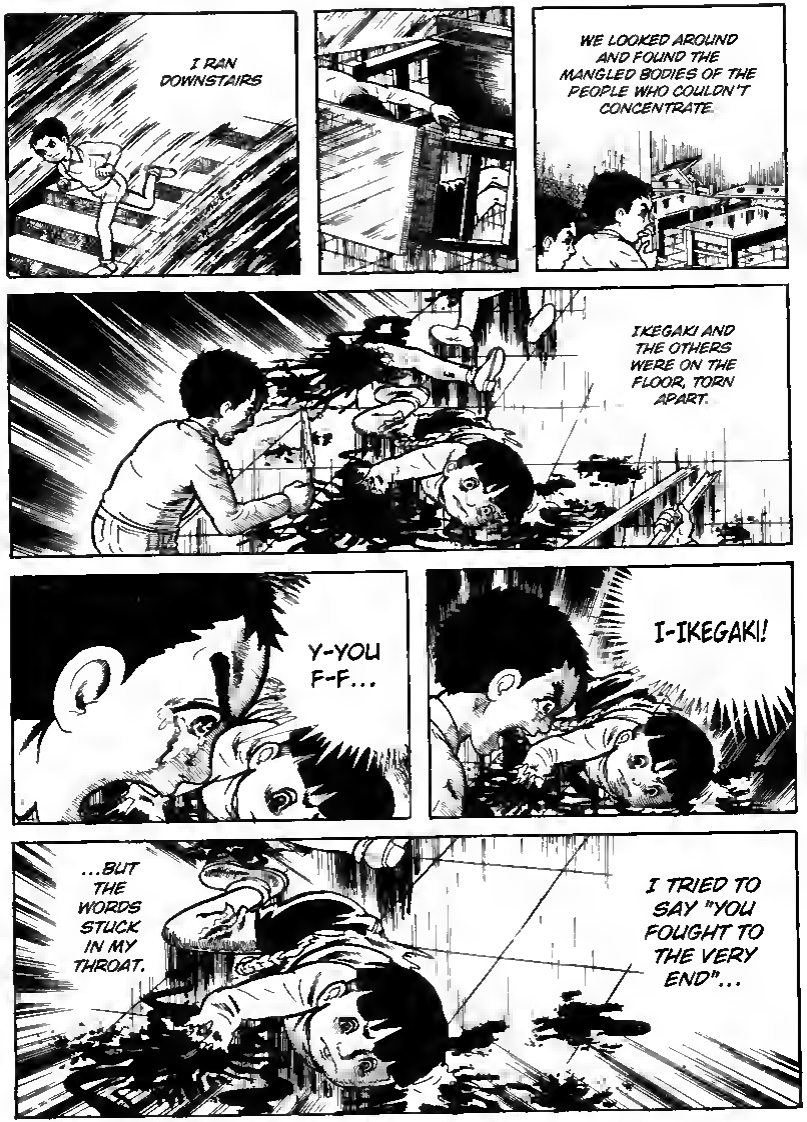

SHAAA


SHAA
SHAAA
SHAA

HEY! DON'T!
I CAN'T TAKE IT!
AGGH!
KATOMP
AAGGHH!

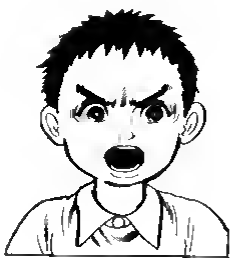

WAAGHH!
SHAA
KRASH
AIEE!
EEEK!
THUMP
THUMP
KLAK
KRNCH

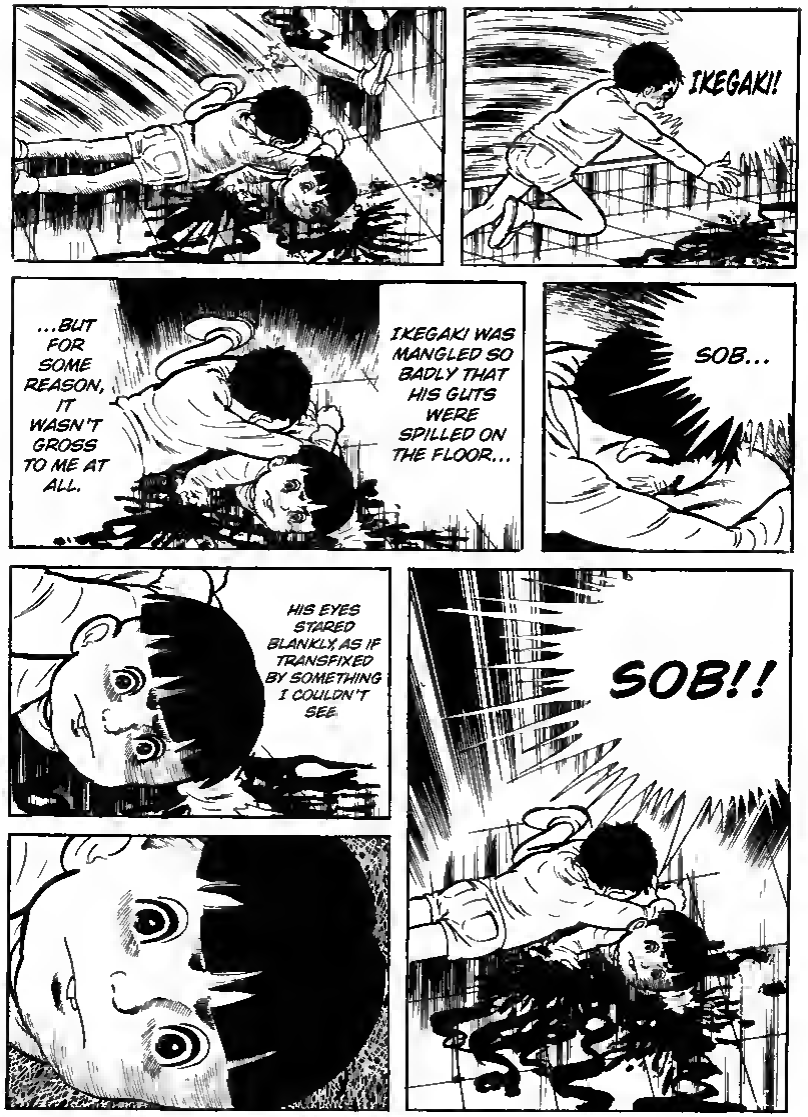

RIP
KRAK
GYAA!
AGGH!
SMASH
SHAA
WHUP
SHAA
SHAAA
KLKKA!

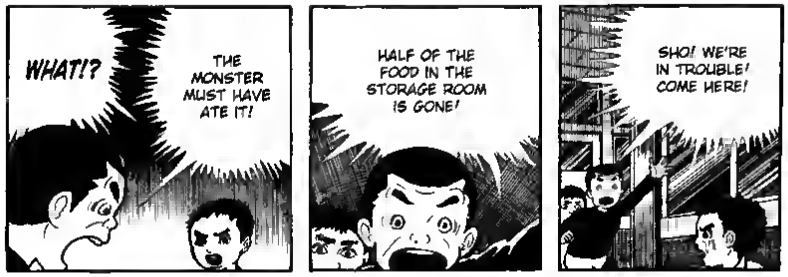

I RAN DOWNSTAIRS
WE LOOKED AROUND AND FOUND THE MANGLED BODIES OF THE PEOPLE WHO COULDN'T CONCENTRATE.
IKEGAKI AND THE OTHERS WERE ON THE FLOOR, TORN APART.
Y-YOU F-F...
I-IKEGAKI!
...BUT THE WORDS STUCK IN MY THROAT.
I TRIED TO SAY "YOU FOUGHT TO THE VERY END"...

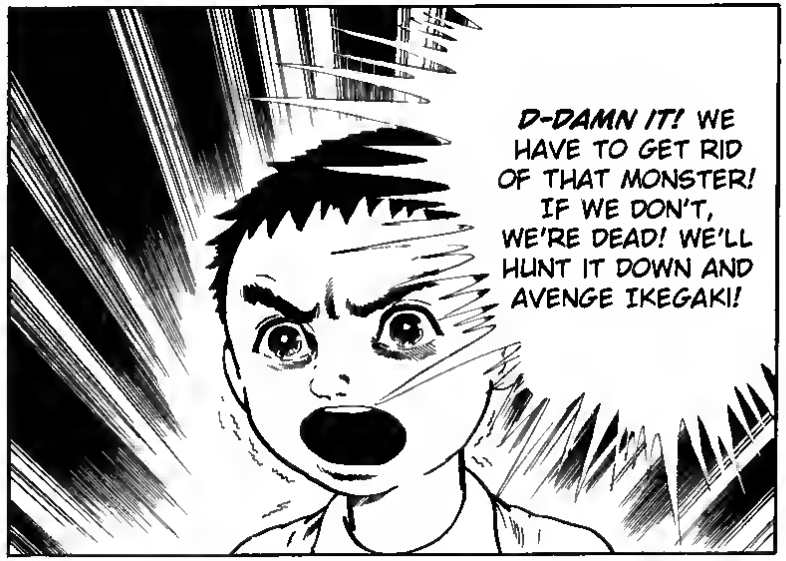
WHUD
WE MADE IT!
WE MADE IT!
I HAVE NO IDEA HOW LONG I WAS IN THAT STATE. I PUSHED MYSELF TO THE LIMIT.
YAAY!
THE MONSTER'S GONE!
EVERYONE, WE MADE IT!
IS EVERYONE ALL RIGHT!?
TAKAMATSU!

CHAPTER 16:
A DESPERATE ACT




IKEGAKI!
...BUT FOR SOME REASON, IT WASN'T GROSS TO ME AT ALL.
IKEGAKI WAS MANGLED SO BADLY THAT HIS GUTS WERE SPILLED ON THE FLOOR...
SOB...
HIS EYES STARED BLANKLY, AS IF TRANSFIXED BY SOMETHING I COULDN'T SEE.
SOB!!

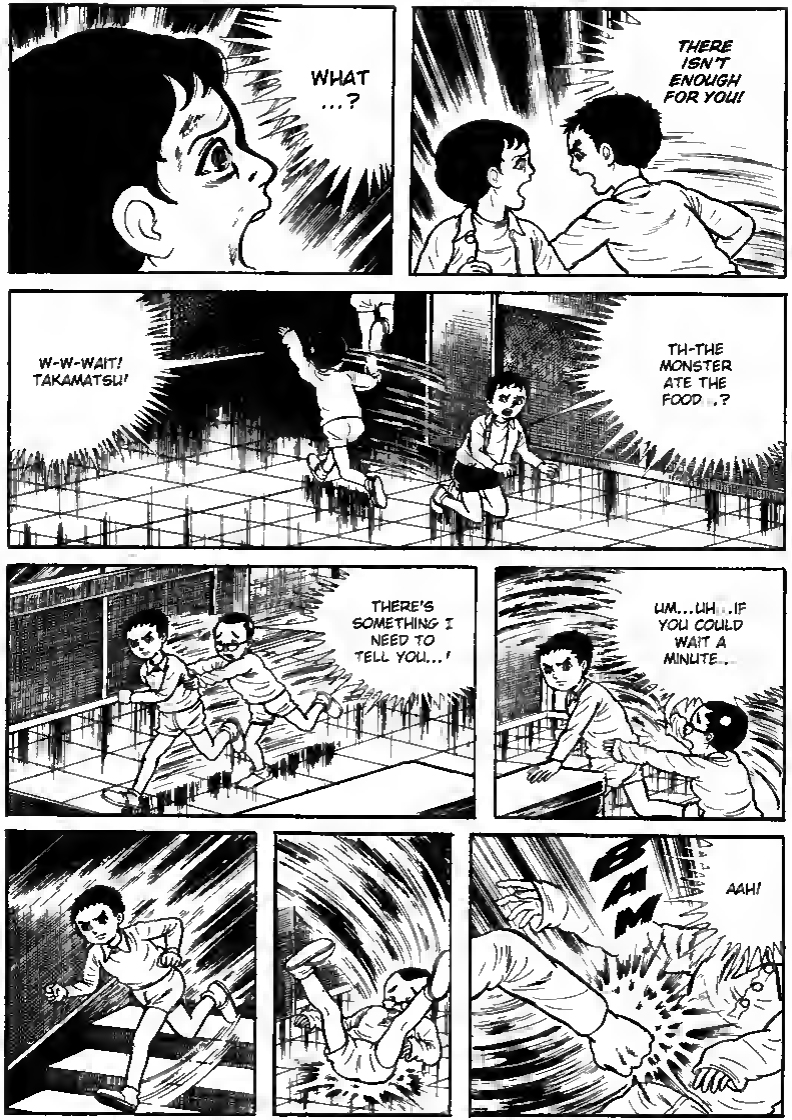

WHAT!?
THE MONSTER MUST HAVE ATE IT!
HALF OF THE FOOD IN THE STORAGE ROOM IS GONE!
SHO! WE'RE IN TROUBLE! COME HERE!


D-DAMN IT! WE HAVE TO GET RID OF THAT MONSTER! IF WE DON'T, WE'RE DEAD! WE'LL HUNT IT DOWN AND AVENGE IKEGAKI!

WE'LL KILL THAT DAMN MONSTER!

O-OKAY!
TELL THE FIFTH AND SIXTH GRADERS WE'RE LEAVING NOW!

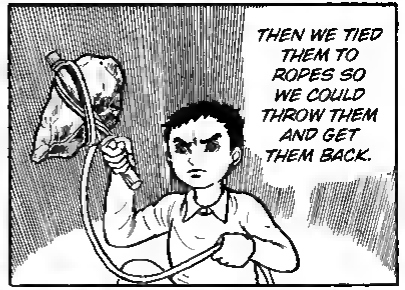
TH-THAT BOY IS CRYING FOR FOOD AGAIN!
UM, UM, TAKAMATSU...!


WHAT ...?
THERE ISN'T ENOUGH FOR YOU!!
W-W-WAIT! TAKAMATSU!
TH-THE MONSTER ATE THE FOOD .?
THERE'S SOMETHING I NEED TO TELL YOU...!
UM...UH...IF YOU COULD WAIT A MINUTE..
BAM
AAH!

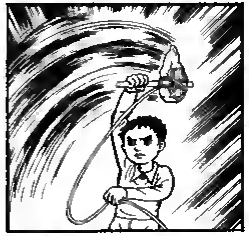
OWW!
SHOVE
THAT'S NOT IMPORTANT!
PLEASE! GIVE ME FOOD!
TAKAMATSU!
PLEASE!
I CAN'T TAKE IT ANYMORE!
WE DON'T HAVE ANY FOOD! THAT MONSTER DIDN'T JUST KILL OUR CLASSMATES, IT ATE OUR FOOD SUPPLY!

WE BROKE APART CONCRETE BLOCKS AND MADE STONE AXES OUT OF THEM.

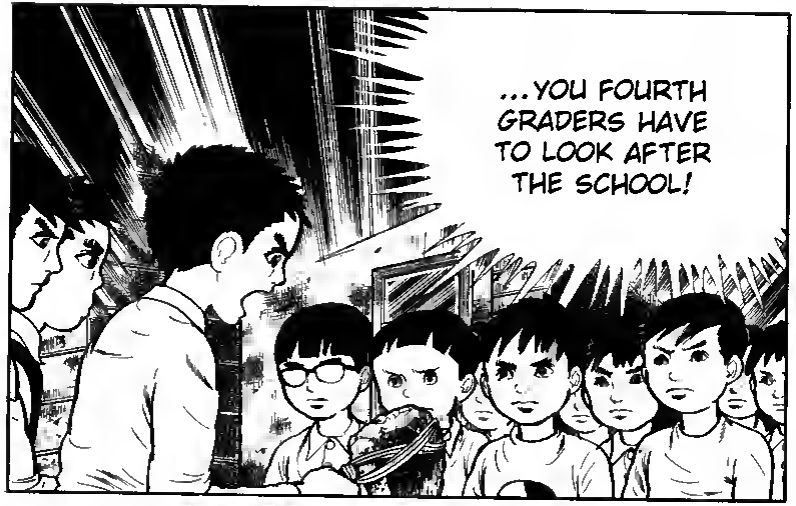
WE WEREN'T SURE WHETHER THIS WOULD WORK, BUT WE WERE SO ANGRY WE COULDN'T SIT STILL.

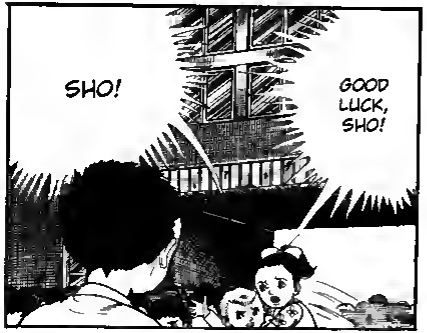

THEN WE TIED THEM TO ROPES SO WE COULD THROW THEM AND GET THEM BACK.

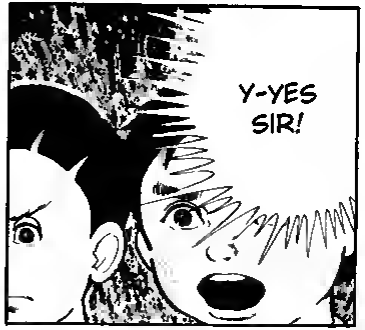
THUNK

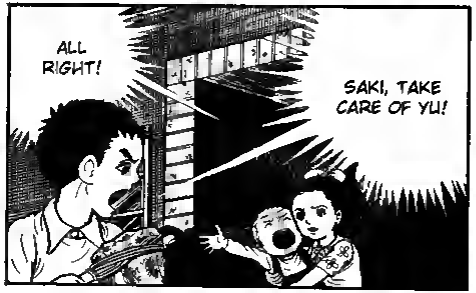


IF WE DON'T MAKE IT BACK...

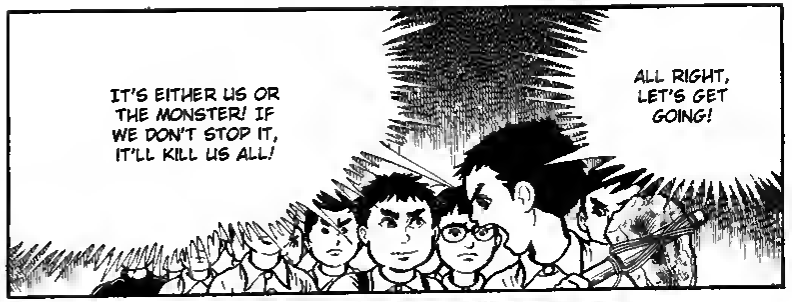

...YOU FOURTH GRADERS HAVE TO LOOK AFTER THE SCHOOL!

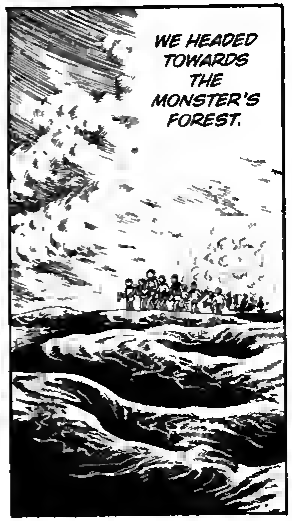

SHO!
GOOD LUCK, SHO!


Y-YES SIR!

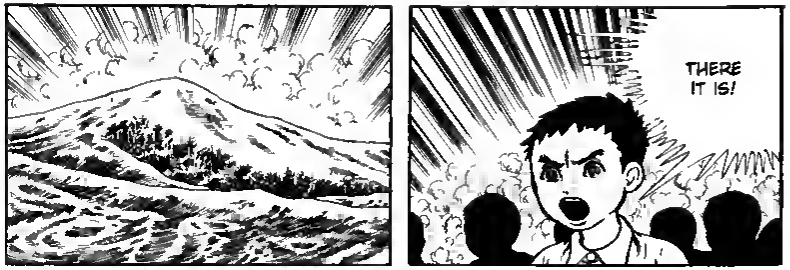

ALL RIGHT!
SAKI, TAKE CARE OF YU!

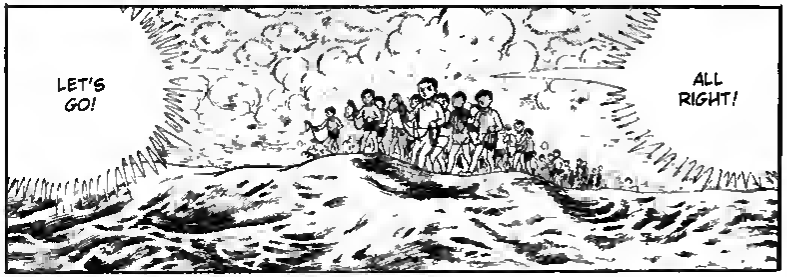
I WANNA GO TOO!

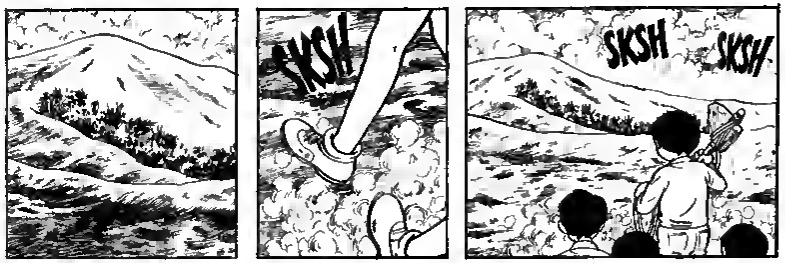

IT'S EITHER US OR THE MONSTER! IF WE DON'T STOP IT, IT'LL KILL US ALL!
ALL RIGHT, LET'S GET GOING!


WE HEADED TOWARDS THE MONSTER'S FOREST.

SKSH
SKSH


THERE IT IS!


LET'S GO!
ALL RIGHT!


SKSH
SKSH

I GOT IT!
YOUR GROUP GO AROUND AND COME IN FROM THE OTHER SIDE!
WE SPLIT UP AND WENT INTO THE STRANGE FOREST

RUSTLE
SHF
HERE IT COMES!
ATTACK IT!
RUSTLE

THUD
I-I'M HUNGRY!
NNHH ...!
AH! F-FRUIT!
NAKATA!
PLEASE! SOMEBODY ...DOES ANYBODY HAVE SOME FOOD?
I NEED TO EAT!
PLEASE! I'M STARVING!
YOU CAN'T EAT IT! IT'LL TURN TO SAND!
STOP HIM!
TAKAMATSU!
TAKAMATSU!
WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT? YOU JUST ATE BEFORE WE CAME HERE!

AH!
IT'S US!
H-HOLD ON!
DIDN'T YOU GUYS FIND IT?
WHERE'S THE MONSTER?
OTOMO!
WE HAVEN'T FOUND IT EITHER! WE LOOKED ALL OVER!
WHAT?
IT'S NOWHERE!
N-NO!
M-MAYBE IT'S ATTACKING OUR SCHOOL!

SKID
OH...!
ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?
YOU'RE NOT SUPPOSED TO BE HERE! WHAT'S WRONG?
NISHI! WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE?!
LOOK AT THIS!
THE SCHOOL IS FINE! BUT I NEEDED TO SHOW YOU SOMETHING!
....BUT I COULDN'T CATCH UP BECAUSE OF MY BAD LEGS!
I RAN AFTER YOU, RIGHT AFTER YOU LEFT ..
AH!!
WH-WHAT IS THIS..?
WHO DREW THIS!?
A DRAWING OF THE MONSTER!
AND NO!
YES
IS THIS BY A SECOND-GRADER...?
NAKATA 2ND GRADE CLASS 4
WE WERE LOOKING FOR FOOD IN THE FACULTY ROOM AND WE FOUND THIS DRAWING IN A DRAWER!
WHAT?!
IT'S BY NAKATA! HE DREW IT IN SECOND GRADE, THREE YEARS AGO!

WHAT ?!
...ARE A FIGMENT OF HIS IMAGINATION!
UM... MAYBE THAT MONSTER AND THESE PLANTS...
...YOU SAID YOURSELF HOW THERE WEREN'T ANY PLANTS HERE BEFORE!
UM... UH... WELL...
WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?
SHH!
BUT WE CAN TOUCH THEM! THAT MONSTER KILLED SO MANY PEOPLE!
WHAT IF NAKATA'S FEARS ENDED UP PRODUCING THESE HALLUCINATIONS?
BASED ON WATCHING NAKATA...
TH- THERE'S SOMETHING ELSE I DISCOVERED!
ER... UH... UM...

HE HAS A GREAT IMAGINATION. HE WAS ALWAYS GOOD AT DRAWING.
NAKATA'S PARENTS ARE REALLY RICH. HE'S VERY KIND, BUT HE'S ALWAYS BEEN NERVOUS AROUND PEOPLE.
I WAS IN NAKATA'S CLASS THAT YEAR.
I REMEMBER THIS DRAWING...
I DON'T REMEMBER WHAT I DREW. I'M SURE NAKATA DOESN'T REMEMBER DRAWING THIS EITHER.
YOUR WHAT?!
THIS PICTURE WAS FOR AN ASSIGNMENT WHEN THE TEACHER TOLD US TO DRAW OUR WORST NIGHTMARE!
HE EVEN DREW THE STRANGE PLANTS AND THINGS!
HOW COULD HE HAVE KNOWN ABOUT THE MONSTER SO LONG BEFORE WE CAME HERE?
BUT ISN'T IT WEIRD?
TH-THIS IS WHAT I WANTED TO TALK TO YOU ABOUT! IT'S... IT'S ABOUT NAKATA!
SH-SHO!
WHAT'S GOING ON..?

WHAT ARE YOU DOING?!
OH. .!
AGH!
TUMP
I NEED IT!
GIVE ME THAT!
BUH BUH ..!
S-SEKIYA!
FOOD, FOOD!
SHFF
FOOD!
CHOMP
CHOMP

...THE MONSTER SHOWED UP EVERY TIME NAKATA ATE SOMETHING!
ON TOP OF THAT..
DID YOU NOTICE THAT WE FOUND THE FOREST AT THE SAME TIME AS NAKATA'S FIRST HUNGER FIT?
WH-WHAT IF NAKATA IS ALWAYS STARVING BECAUSE THE MONSTER OF HIS FANTASIES FEEDS OFF THE ENERGY OF THE FOOD HE CONSUMES..?
M-MAYBE THE MONSTER WON'T SHOW UP BECAUSE NAKATA IS HUNGRY!
I DIDN'T EAT MY BISCUIT. LET'S GIVE IT TO NAKATA.
IT'S ONLY A HYPOTHESIS WE HAVE TO CONFIRM IT.
WH-WHAT!?
EAT THIS!
FOOD!
NAKATA!

WAH!
WUH!!
NAKATA, STOP!
SEKIYA! NO!
GLUT GLUT
UNGH
GULP
MUCH MUCH
DON'T SWING THAT!
HEY!
GULP

SS
SMOM

IT'S HERE!
AGGH!

YAH!

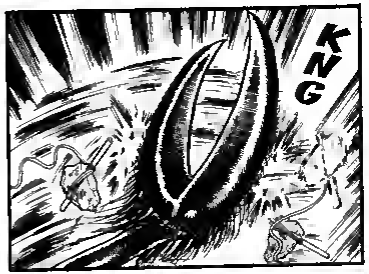
LET'S GET IT!

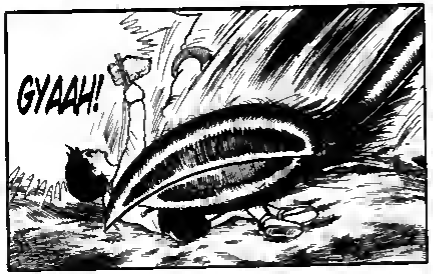
KLANG

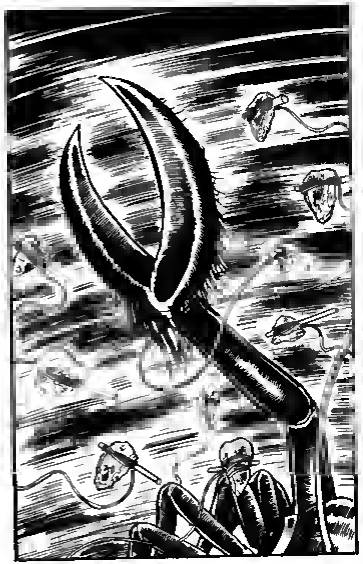
AIEE!

KLANG
KLANG
KLANG

AGGKK!


KNG

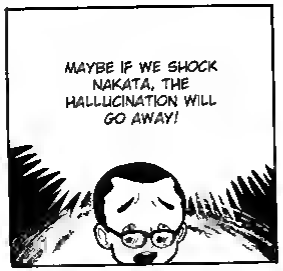

GYAAH!

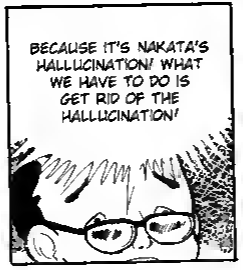


DAMN IT!

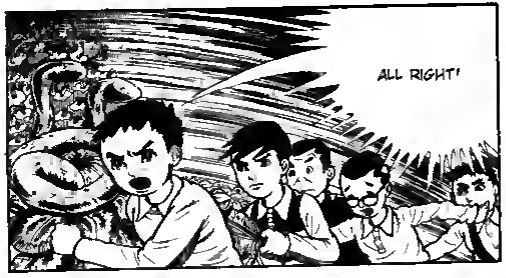
PLEASE, SHO. NO MATTER WHAT WE DO, WE CAN'T KILL IT.

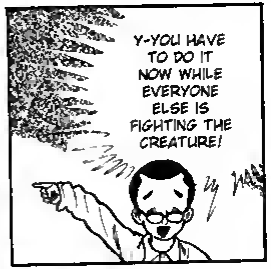
EVERYONE STOP! IT'S USELESS!


MAYBE IF WE SHOCK NAKATA, THE HALLUCINATION WILL GO AWAY!


BECAUSE IT'S NAKATA'S HALLUCINATION! WHAT WE HAVE TO DO IS GET RID OF THE HALLUCINATION!

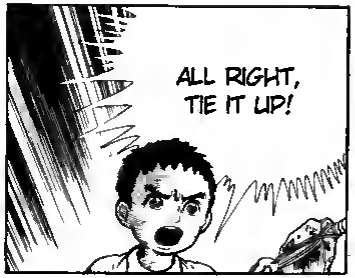
WHY!?


ALL RIGHT!


Y-YOU HAVE TO DO IT NOW WHILE EVERYONE ELSE IS FIGHTING THE CREATURE!

HUH?

NAKATA!

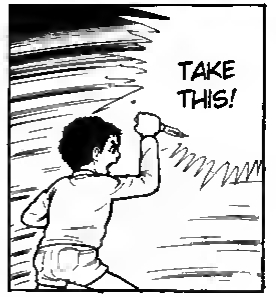

ALL RIGHT, TIE IT UP!

THEN I'LL FINISH IT OFF!

NOW!
SNIPP

D-D-DON'T DO IT!

WAIT, SHO!


TAKE THIS!

DO YOU REMEMBER!?
YOU'RE CRAZY!
YOU DREW IT, AND NOW YOU MADE IT REAL! YOU'RE MAKING IT REAL WITH YOUR BRAIN!
HEY, WHAT ARE YOU DOING TO ME?!
I DON'T BELIEVE IT! THIS ISN'T MY IMAGINATION!
IMAGINE SOMETHING NICER!
YOU HAVE TO GET RID OF THESE THOUGHTS!

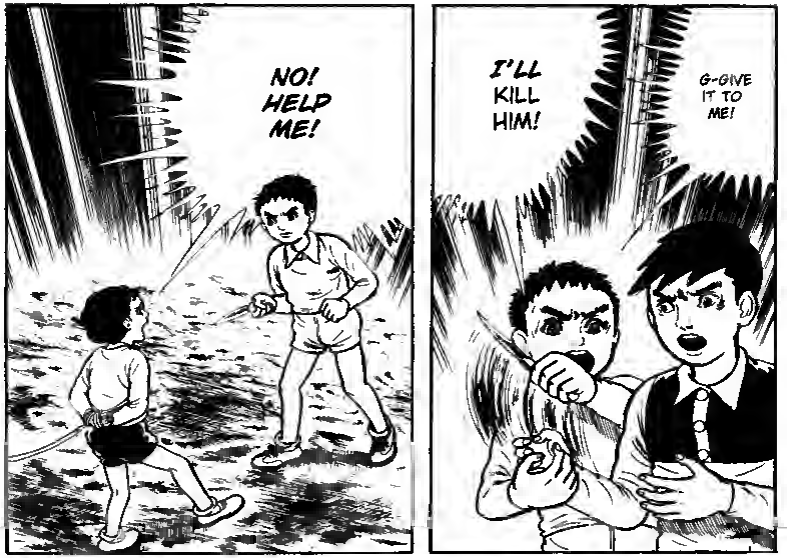
WHAT?!
LISTEN! THIS MONSTER AND ALL THESE PLANTS...THEY'RE PART OF YOUR IMAGINATION!
THAT'S RIGHT!
YOU MEAN I MADE THEM UP...?
GASP!
LOOK AT THIS DRAWING!
YOU DREW THIS!

SEKIYA! STOP!
STOP!
COME BACK HERE!
WHAM!
WHUD
UNNH!
AGGH!
GYEE!

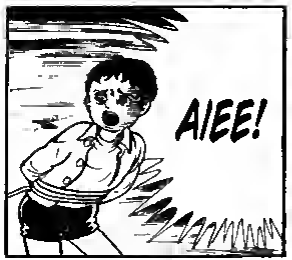
LET GO OF ME!
LET GO OF ME!
I-I DON'T UNDERSTAND!
UNGGH!
MUH!
UNGH! UNGH!
AGH!
BAM!!

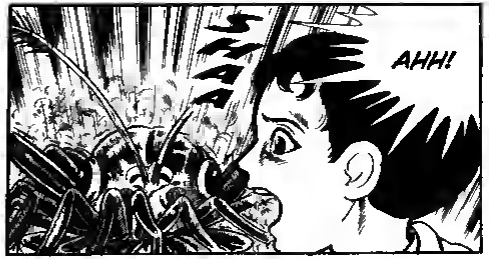
WHAT ARE YOU DOING!?
HEY, LET GO OF ME!
NO! LET ME GO!
AGGH!
TIE HIM UP WITH THIS ROPE!
YOU'RE THE ONE WHO SAID WE SHOULD SHOCK HIM!
I-I DON'T KNOW!
SHO, EVEN IF YOU'RE RIGHT, HOW WILL WE STOP HIM FROM IMAGINING THE MONSTER?
OKAY, WE'LL TIE HIM TO THAT TREE!
HELP ME!
IT'S NOT MY FAULT! IT'S NOT MY FAULT!
NO!
COME HERE! STOP STRUGGLING!
SOMEBODY HELP!
YOU MADE UP THESE PLANTS AND TREES! YOU'RE THE ONLY WHO CAN GET RID OF THEM!
ARGH!
YOU HAVE TO GET RID OF THEM OR YOU'LL BE STUCK HERE FOREVER!

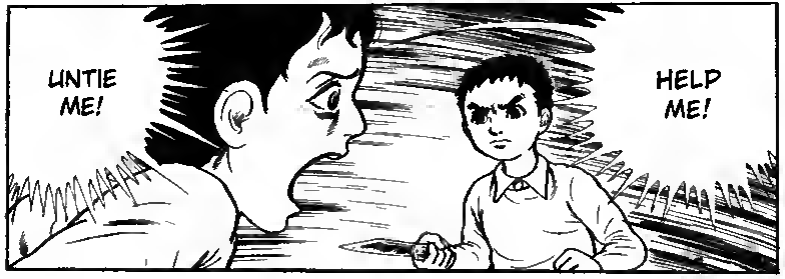
GET RID OF YOUR FANTASIES!
NO! THIS DOESN'T MAKE ANY SENSE!
HEY!
GIVE ME THAT KNIFE!
YOU'RE BEING TOO EASY ON HIM!
WHAT?!
I'M GOING TO KILL HIM!
WH-WHAT ARE YOU DOING?
IT'S SIMPLE! IF IT'S COMING FROM HIS BRAIN, IT'LL GO AWAY WHEN HE'S DEAD!
I'M KILLING HIM!
IT'S NOT COMING FROM MY BRAIN!
EEYAA!
HOLD ON!
TH-TH-THE MONSTER'S TORN THROUGH THE ROPES! IT'S COMING!
WHAT IF IT ISN'T A HALLUCINATION? YOU'LL BE A MURDERER!
AGGHH!
SHAA

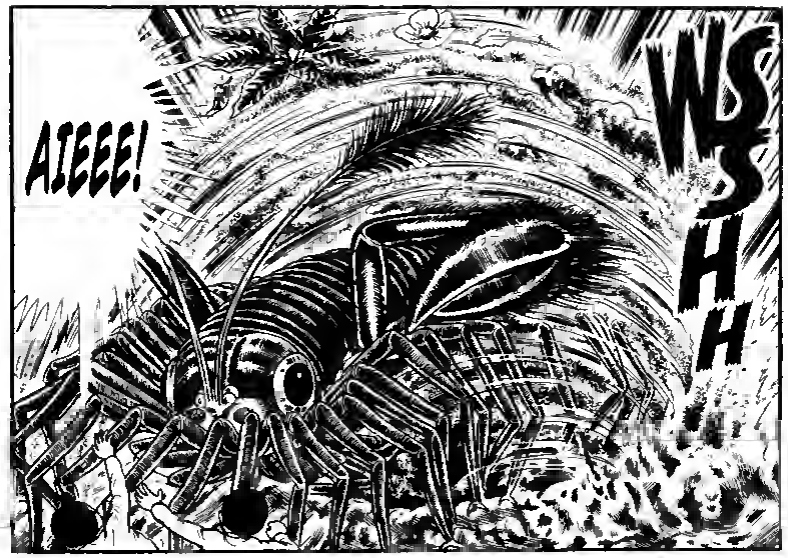

NO! HELP ME!

I'LL KILL HIM!
G-GIVE IT TO ME!

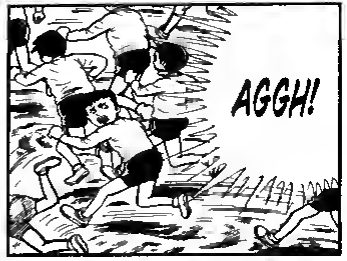

AIEE!

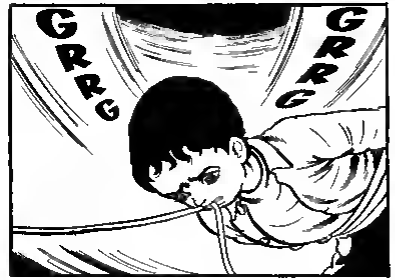

SNAP
AHH!

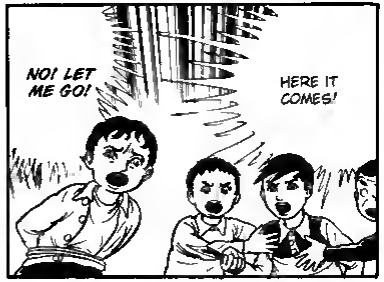

UNTIE ME!
HELP ME!

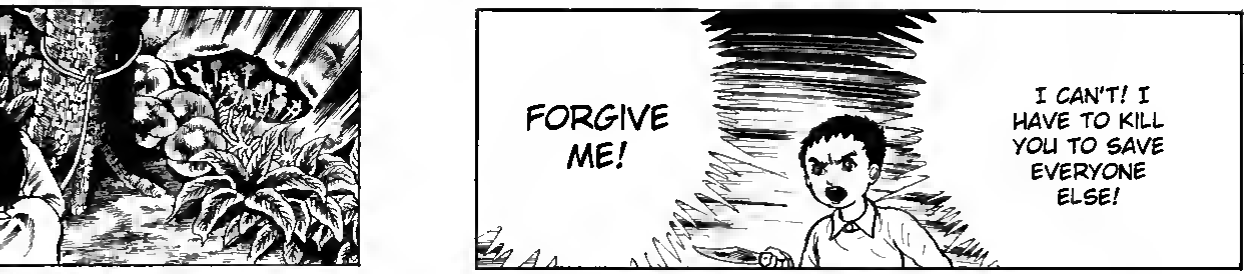

AIEEE!
WSHH

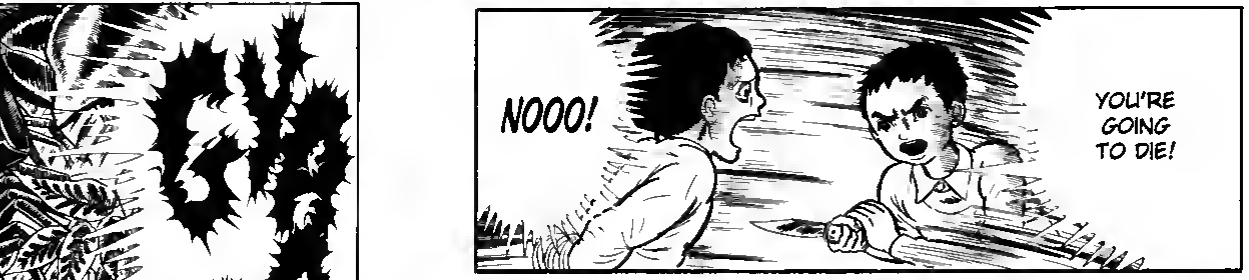
RUN FOR YOUR LIVES!

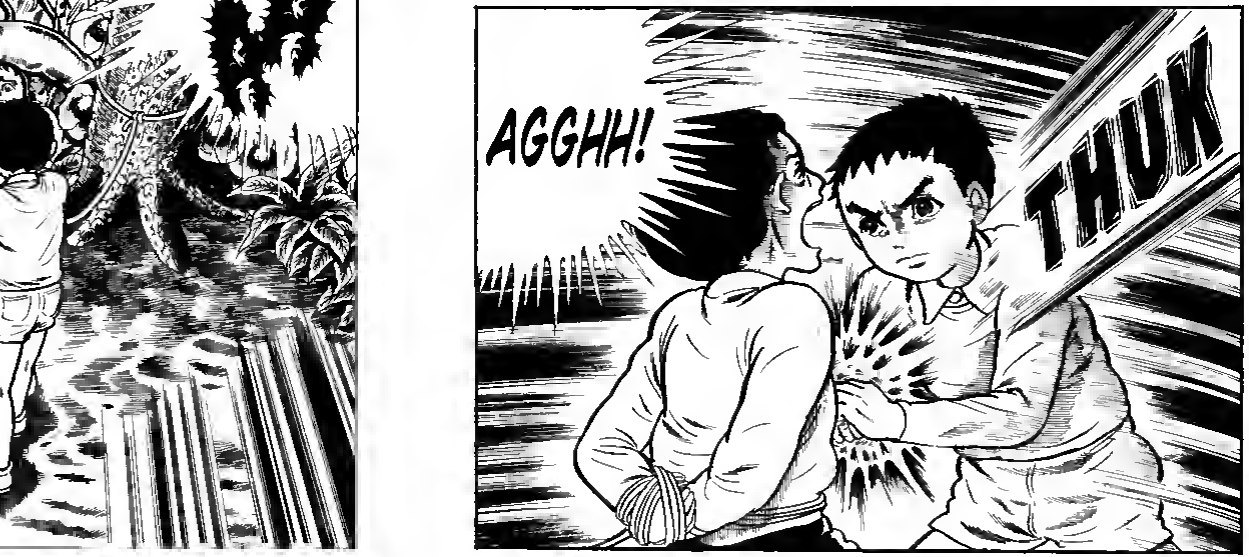

AGGH!


GRRG
GRRG

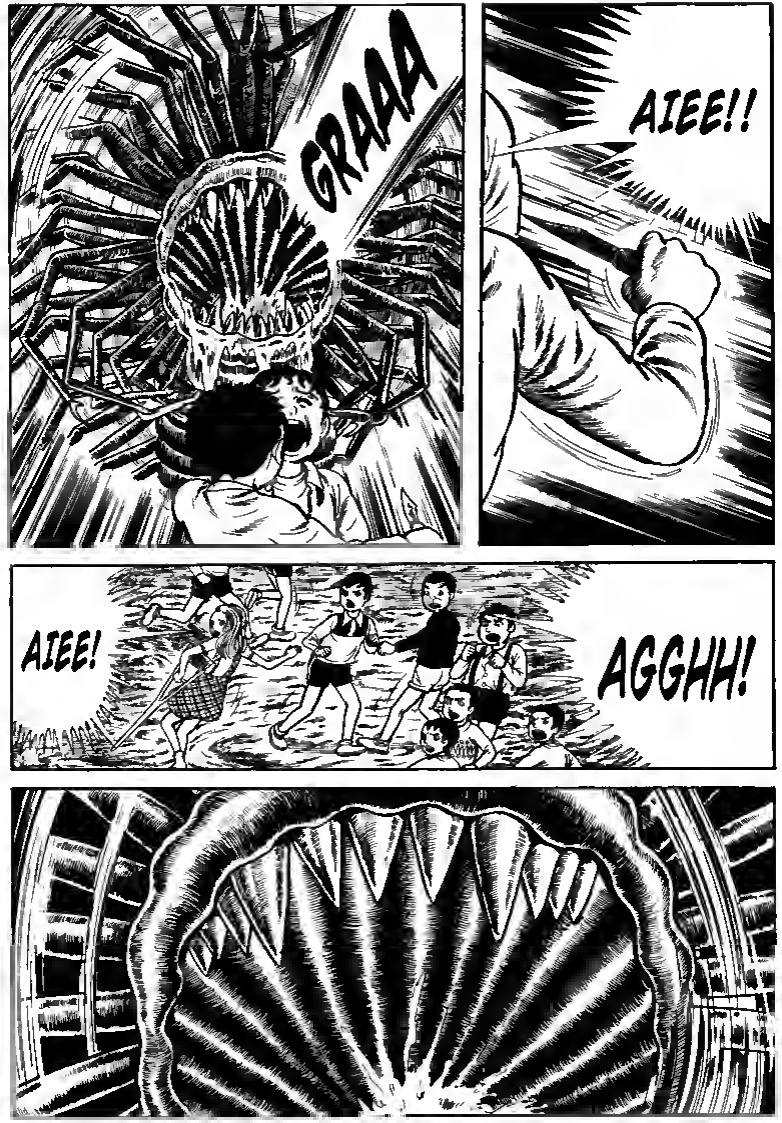

NO! LET ME GO!
HERE IT COMES!


FORGIVE ME!
I CAN'T! I HAVE TO KILL YOU TO SAVE EVERYONE ELSE!


NOOO!
YOU'RE GOING TO DIE!

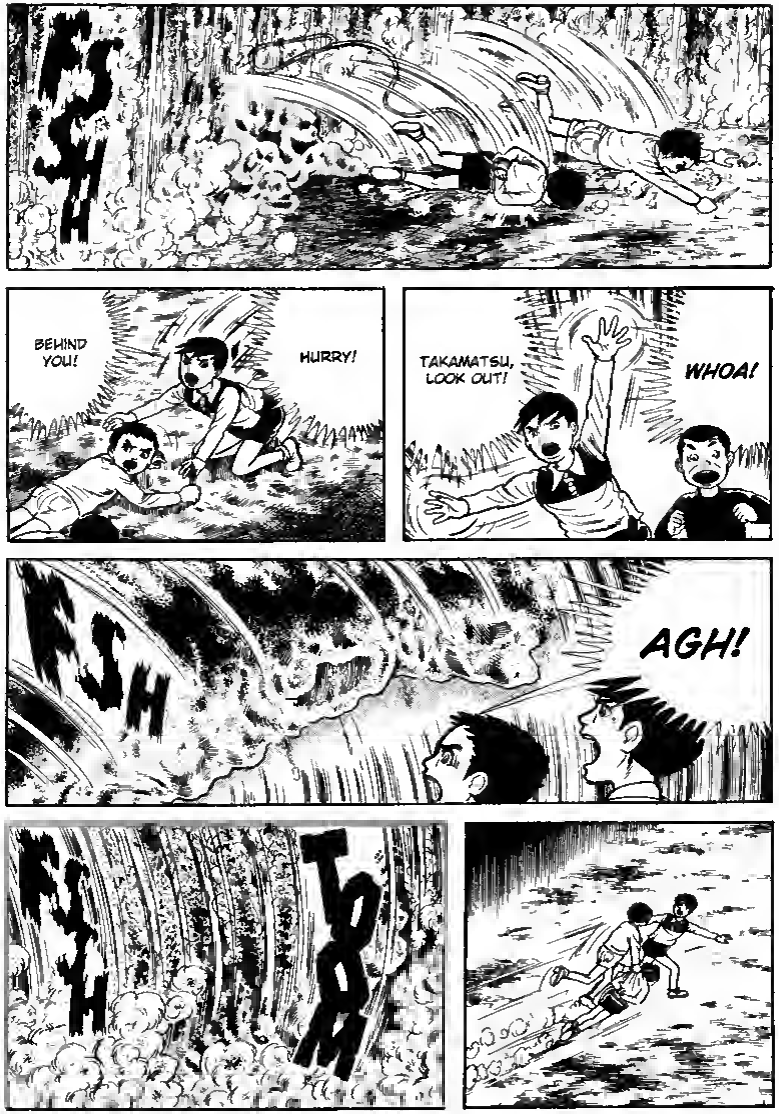

AGGHH!
THUK

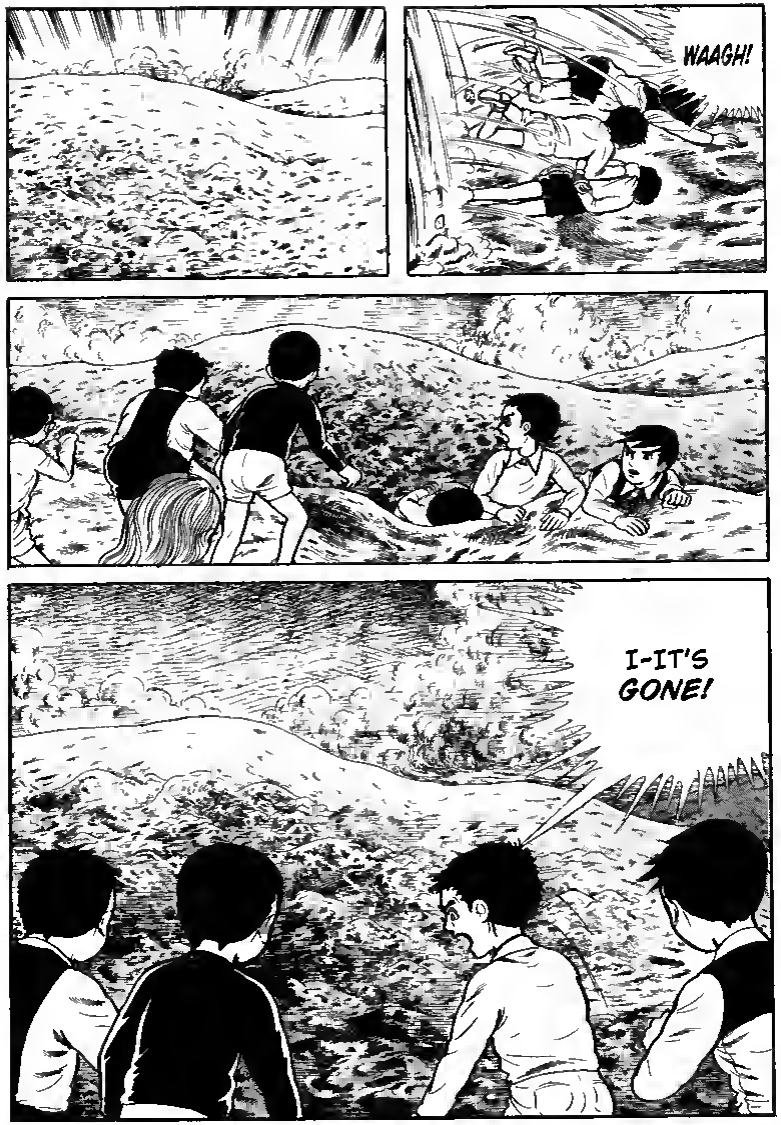
SHAA
GYA


GRAAA
AIEE!!
AIEE!
AGGHH!

GRAA
FSSSH

FSSSH
FSSSH
FSSSH
FSSSH
WHAA
!?


FSH
BEHIND YOU!
HURRY!
TAKAMATSU, LOOK OUT!
WHOA!
FSH
AGH!
FSH
TOP


WAAGH!
I-IT'S GONE!

THE MONSTER, THE PLANTS...
IT'S ALL TURNED TO SAND!
SO IT WAS ALL PART OF HIS IMAGINATION!
IT'S ALL VANISHED...

OH, NAKATA ...!
YEAH!
POOR NAKATA. HE DIDN'T EVEN KNOW HE WAS DOING IT. HE DIDN'T DESERVE TO DIE!
WAIT!

NAKATA ISN'T DEAD!
NAKATA!
HE ISN'T?!
WAKE UP!
YOU'RE FINE!
IT'S ALL RIGHT! EVERYONE'S ALL RIGHT!
URGGH...

AHH!
B-BUT ...!
I DIDN'T STAB YOU!
B-BUT I THOUGHT ..
RIGHT WHEN I WAS ABOUT TO STAB YOU ..
HERE'S WHAT I DID!
BAM
I TURNED THE KNIFE ..LIKE THIS!

THE SHOCK TOOK HIS MIND OFF THE MONSTER! AND SO THE WHOLE THING FELL APART!
NAKATA THOUGHT HE WAS STABBED! HE THOUGHT HE WAS DEAD!
WOW!
IT WAS ALL IN YOUR MIND, THE WHOLE TIME
NOW IT'S JUST LIKE EVERYWHERE ELSE...
BUT I DON'T FEEL LIKE CELEBRATING...
WE STOPPED THE MONSTER

IT MEANS THERE REALLY ARE NO TREES AND PLANTS HERE!
HOW ARE WE GOING TO SURVIVE!?
THE WHOLE WORLD IS DEAD!
SNIFF . SOB
COME ON, YOU'RE THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND WELFARE, RIGHT?
CHEER UP, OTOMO!

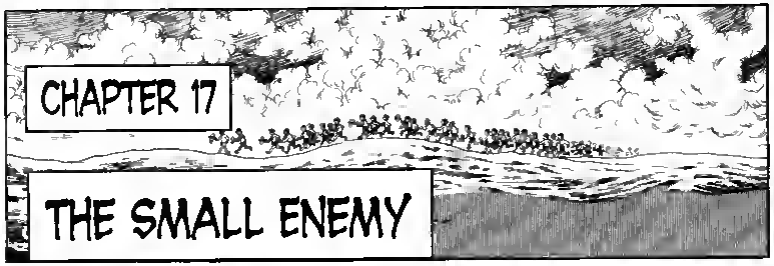
AH ..UM. ..AH... LOOK OVER THERE!
OTOMO!
THE FOOD THE MONSTER "ATE" IS SCATTERED AROUND WHERE IT DISAPPEARED!
YAAY! WE GOT OUR FOOD BACK!
WHAT!?
I HAD EVERYONE GATHER FOOD, TO HELP KEEP OUR MINDS OFF THE DESPAIR.
MOTHER, I'M SURE YOU REMEMBER HOW FULL OF ENERGY OTOMO WAS WHEN HE USED TO COME OVER AND PLAY. NOW HE WAS SO SAD, HE BURST INTO TEARS. BUT DEEP DOWN, WE ALL FELT THE SAME WAY.

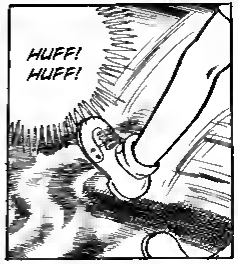
HUH?
FSH
IT MUST BE ONE OF THE MONSTER'S VICTIMS!
A DEAD BODY!
SHO! COME QUICK!
WHY'D THEY COME HERE?
WHO IS IT?
SOME KIDS ARE COMING OVER THIS WAY!

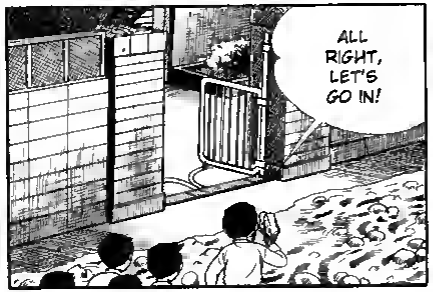
LOOK...!
SHO!
WHAT'S GOING ON, SHO!?
GASP !
WAIT UP!

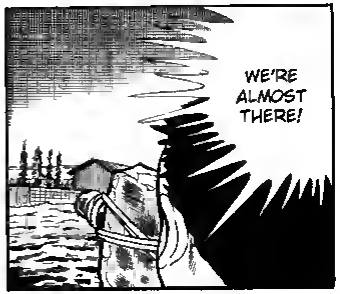
BRING YOUR STONE AXES!!

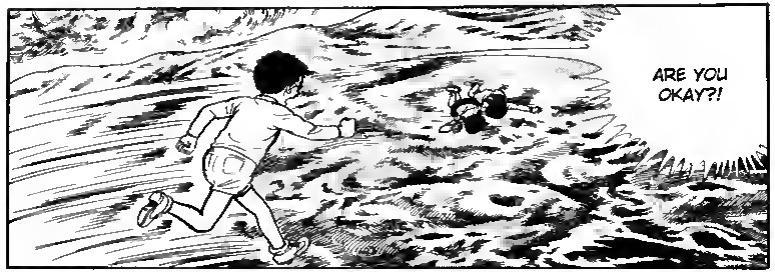
SOMETHING'S WRONG! WE HAVE TO GO BACK TO THE SCHOOL!

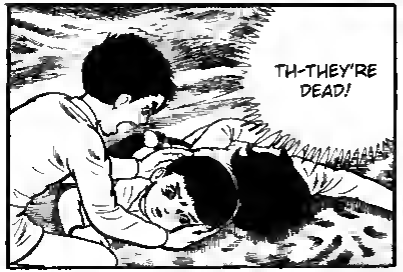

CHAPTER 17
THE SMALL ENEMY

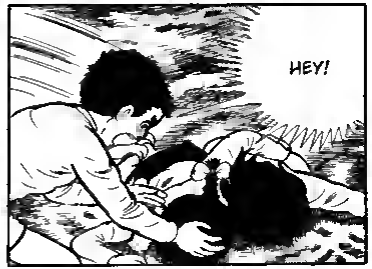

HUFF! HUFF!


ALL RIGHT, LET'S GO IN!

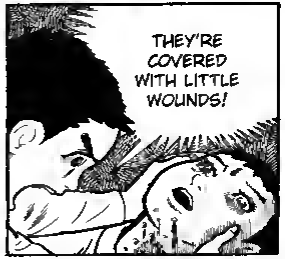

WE'RE ALMOST THERE!

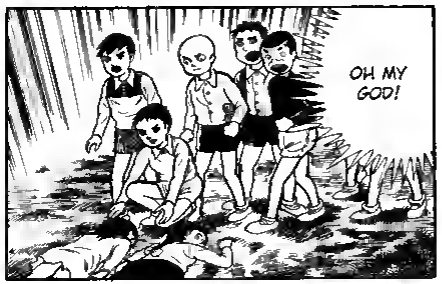

ARE YOU OKAY?!

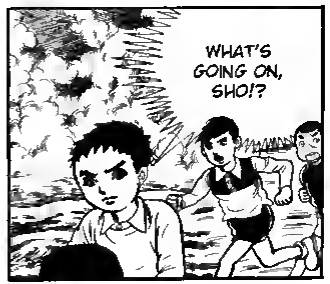

TH-THEY'RE DEAD!

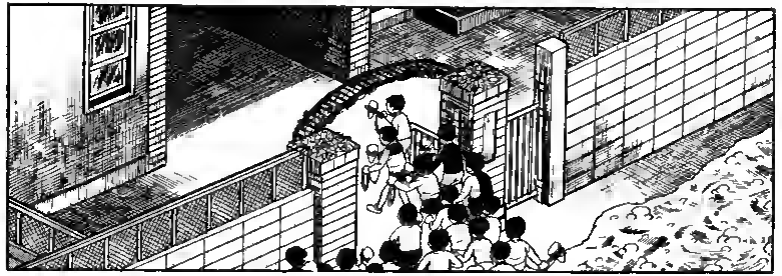

HEY!

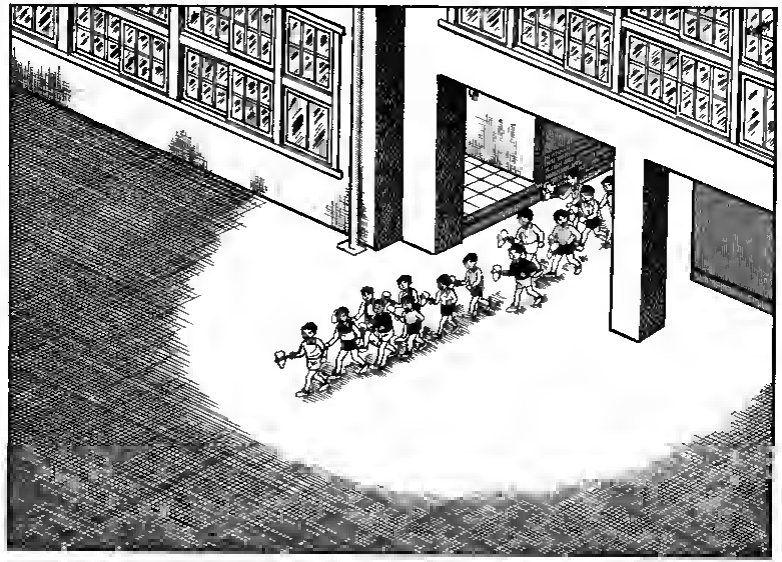
WHAT COULD HAVE HAPPENED ...?


THEY'RE COVERED WITH LITTLE WOUNDS!

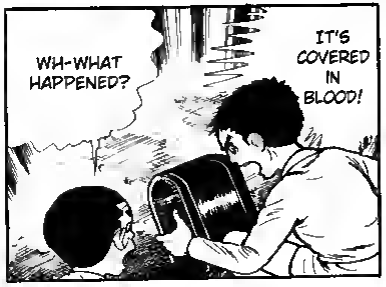

OH MY GOD!


WHAT'S GOING ON, SHO!?





WHAT'S GOING ON? WHERE *IS* EVERYBODY...?


WH-WHAT HAPPENED?
IT'S COVERED IN BLOOD!

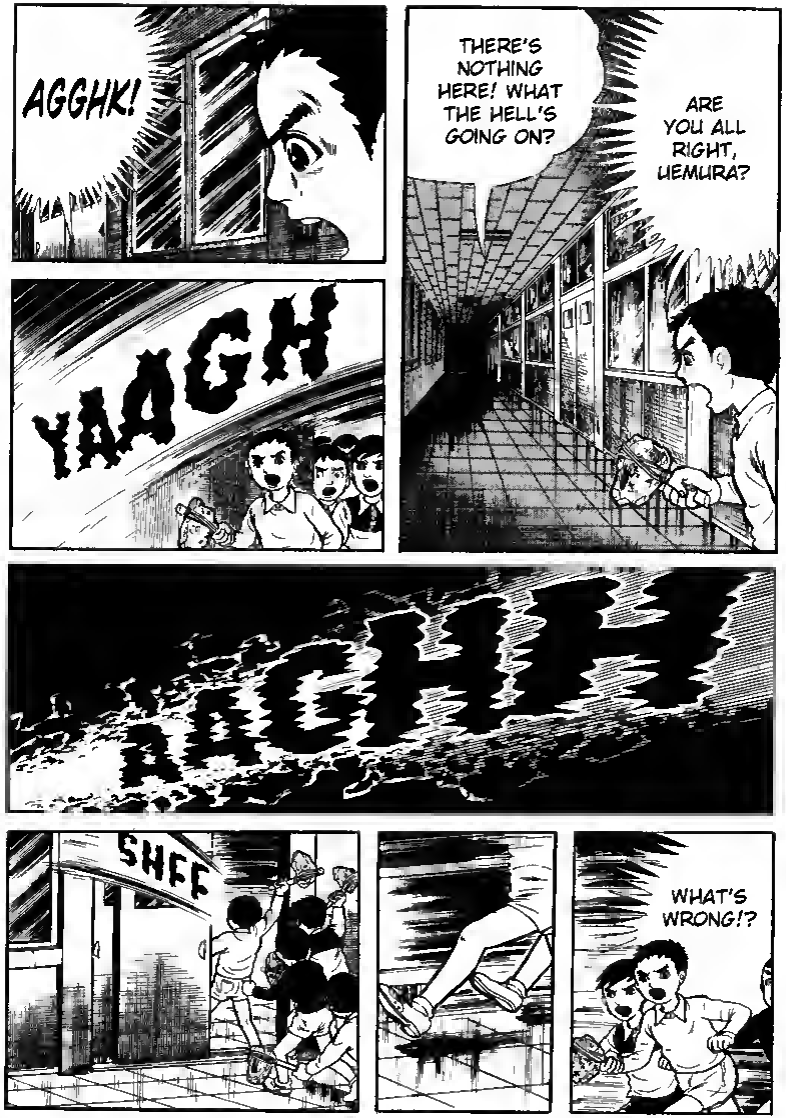
IS ANYBODY THERE?

OKAY!
THEY MUST BE INSIDE! OTOMO, WE'LL SPLIT UP AGAIN!

WHAT'S THAT BACKPACK DOING THERE?

SHFF
NO ONE!
SAME HERE!
IT'S EMPTY!
LET'S GO UP-STAIRS!
THERE'S NO ONE HERE EITHER!
ME NEITHER! EVEN THE SIXTH GRADE ROOMS ARE EMPTY!
WE HAVEN'T SEEN ANYONE. HOW ABOUT YOU, TAKAMATSU?

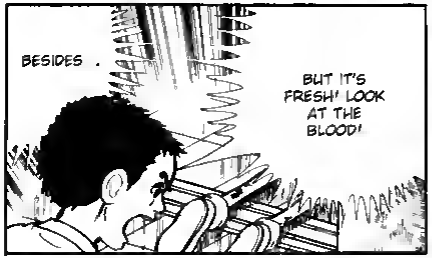
JUST LIKE THE MONSTER!
TH-THEY DISAPPEARED!
WH-WHAT'S GOING ON HERE? WHERE DID EVERYBODY GO?
ZSSSHH
TH-THAT'S MY CLASS! I-I'LL GO HAVE A LOOK!
IT'S COMING FROM SIXTH GRADE CLASS FIVE!
ZSSH
WH-WHAT'S THAT NOISE?
KREEK


AGGHK!
THERE'S NOTHING HERE! WHAT THE HELL'S GOING ON?
ARE YOU ALL RIGHT, UEMURA?
YAAGH
AGHH
SHEE
WHAT'S WRONG!?

GASP!
WAAAH!
KLUNK

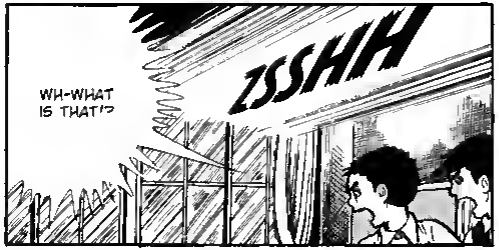
TH-THIS CAN'T BE UEMURA! IT MUST BE SOMEBODY ELSE'S SKELETON!

I-IT'S EMPTY!


BESIDES .
BUT IT'S FRESH! LOOK AT THE BLOOD!

ZSSSHH

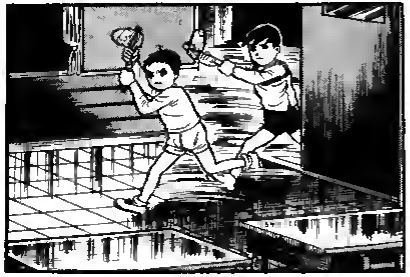
HIS AXE IS ON THE FLOOR AND IT'S WEARING UEMURA'S CLOTHES!

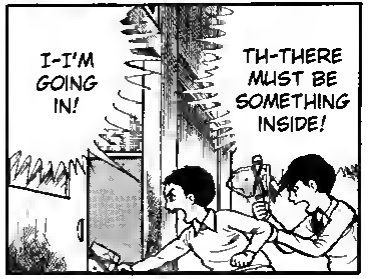

WH-WHAT IS THAT!?
ZSSHH

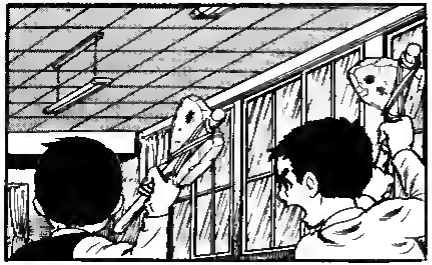
OH MY GOD!

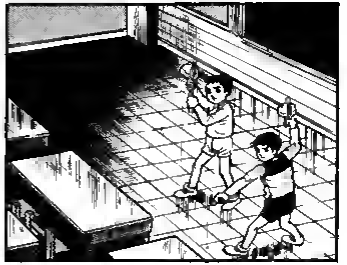
KAAAHH!!

OTOMO ...!
TH-THAT'S UEMURA ...!

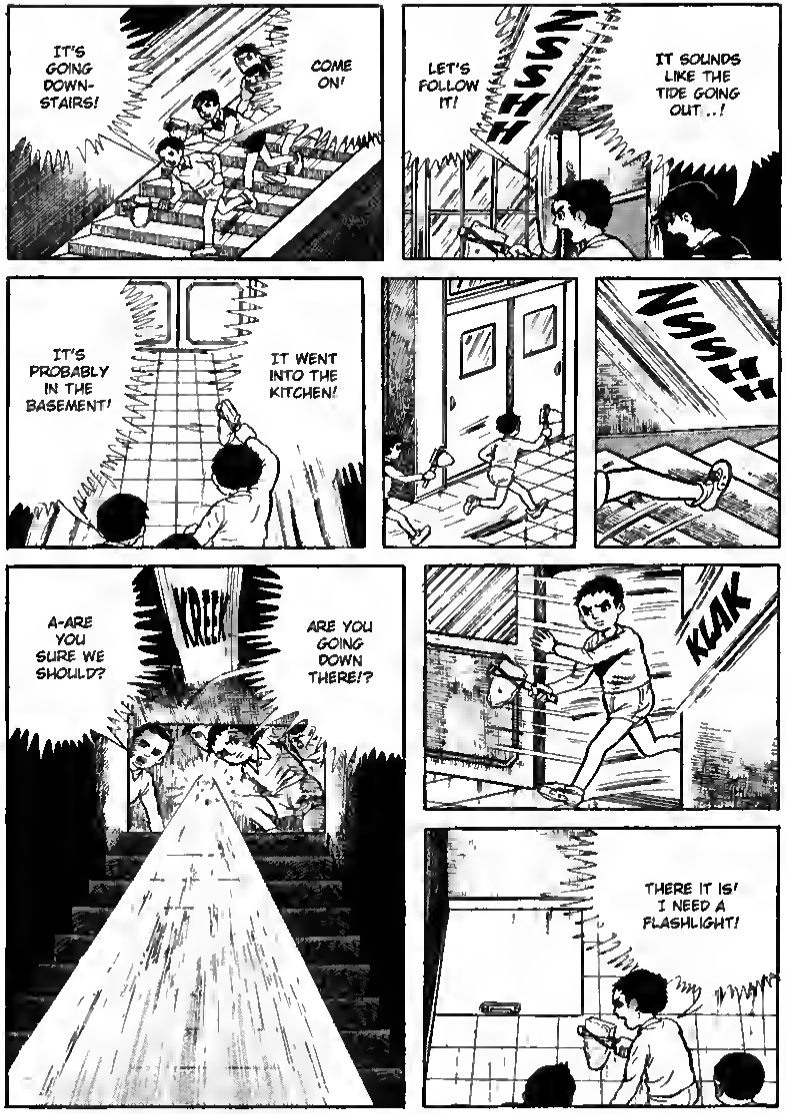



I-I'M GOING IN!
TH-THERE MUST BE SOMETHING INSIDE!



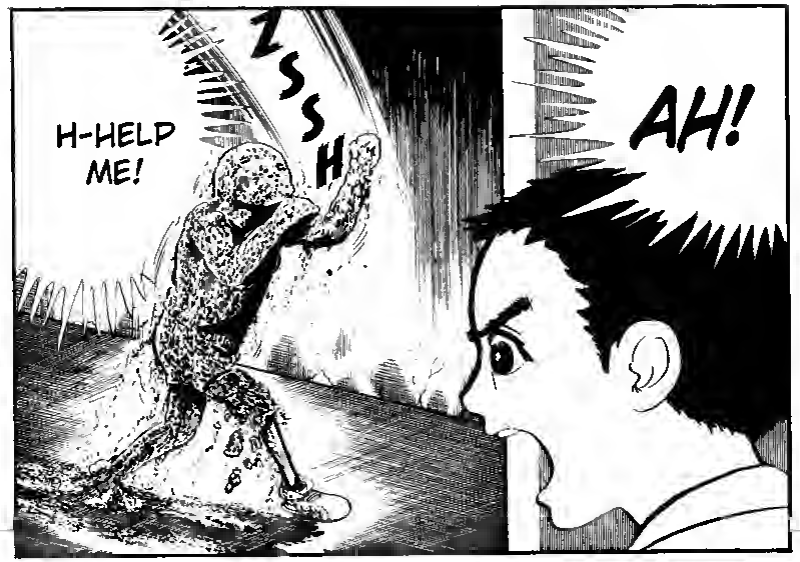


THERE'S NOTHING HERE!
PHEW!
WHY!?
STOP! DON'T GO ANY CLOSER!
IT'S JUST A STAIN IT LOOKS KIND OF WEIRD...
WOW, THAT WAS SCARY!


IT'S GOING DOWN-STAIRS!
COME ON!
LET'S FOLLOW IT!
NSSHH
IT SOUNDS LIKE THE TIDE GOING OUT..!
IT'S PROBABLY IN THE BASEMENT!
IT WENT INTO THE KITCHEN!
NSSHH
A-ARE YOU SURE WE SHOULD?
KREEK
ARE YOU GOING DOWN THERE!?
KLAK
THERE IT IS! I NEED A FLASHLIGHT!

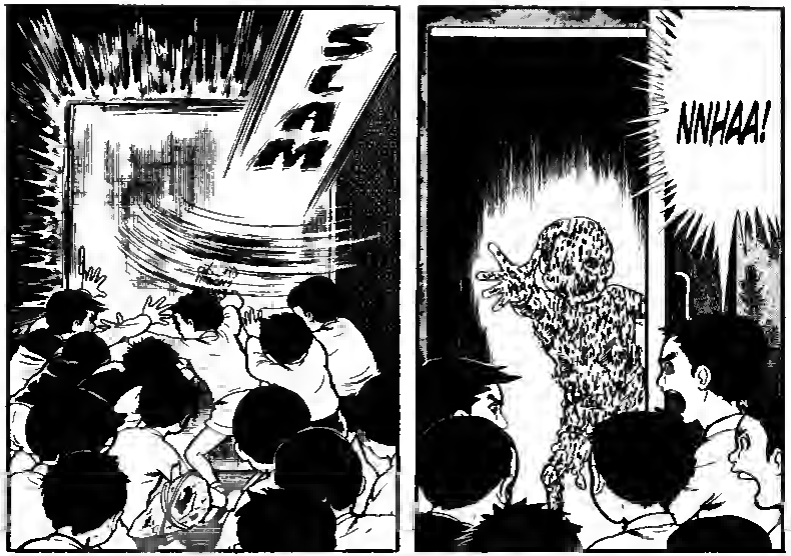
SSSH
AGGGH!

SSSH
AGGHGG!
SSSH
EVERYONE RUN!

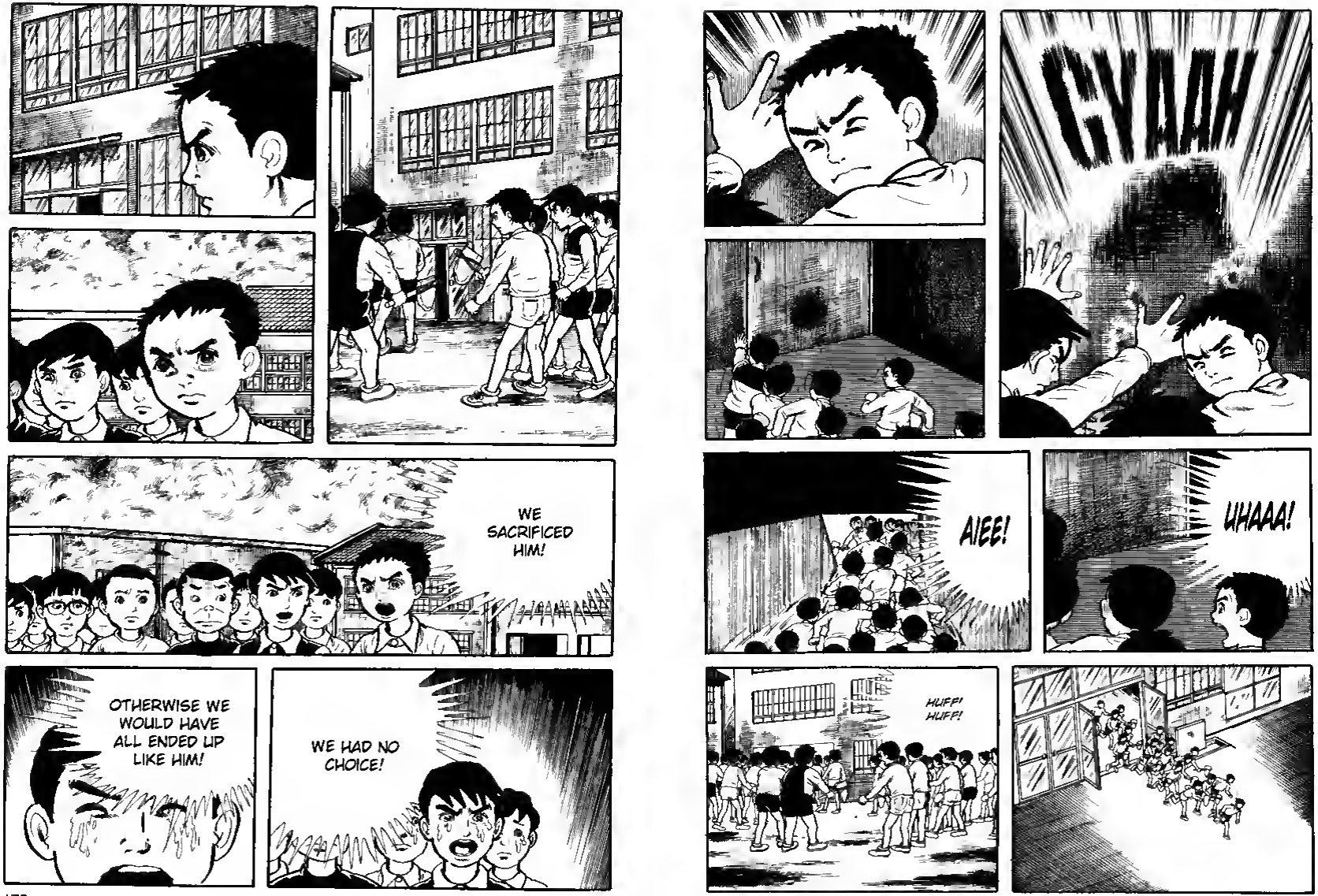

H-HELP ME!
ZSSSH
AH!

AGGH!

GGG... GGH!

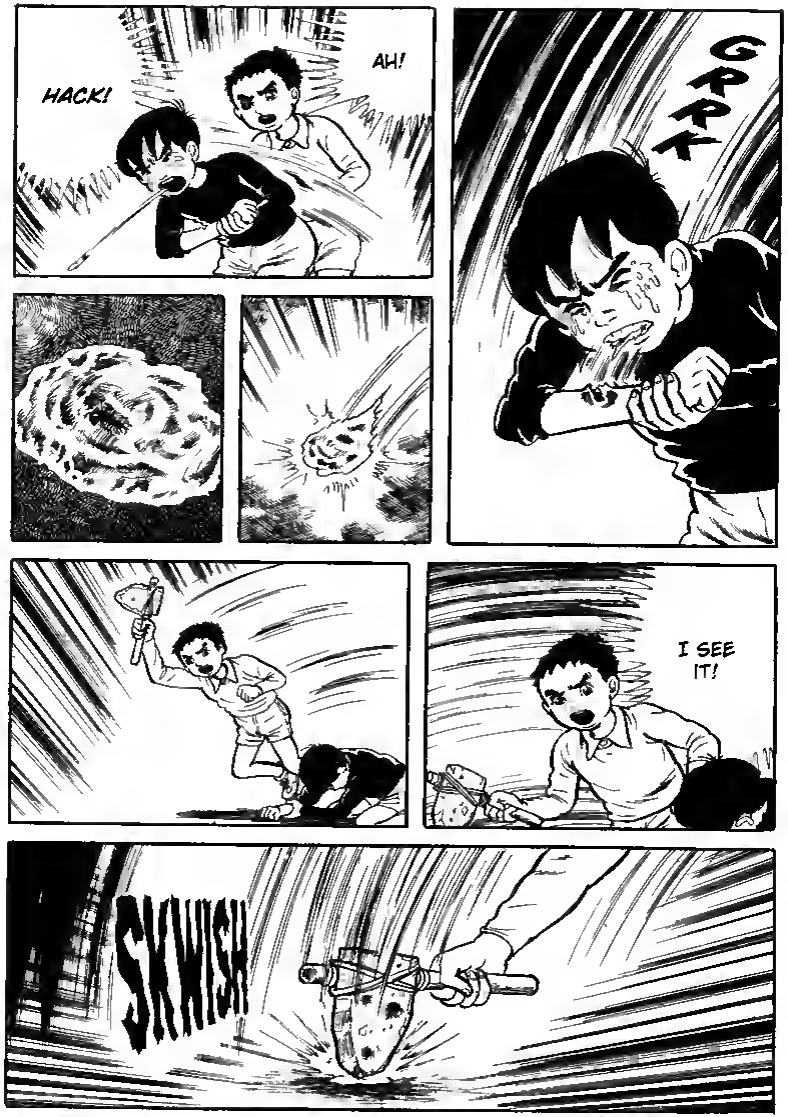

SLAM
NNHAA!

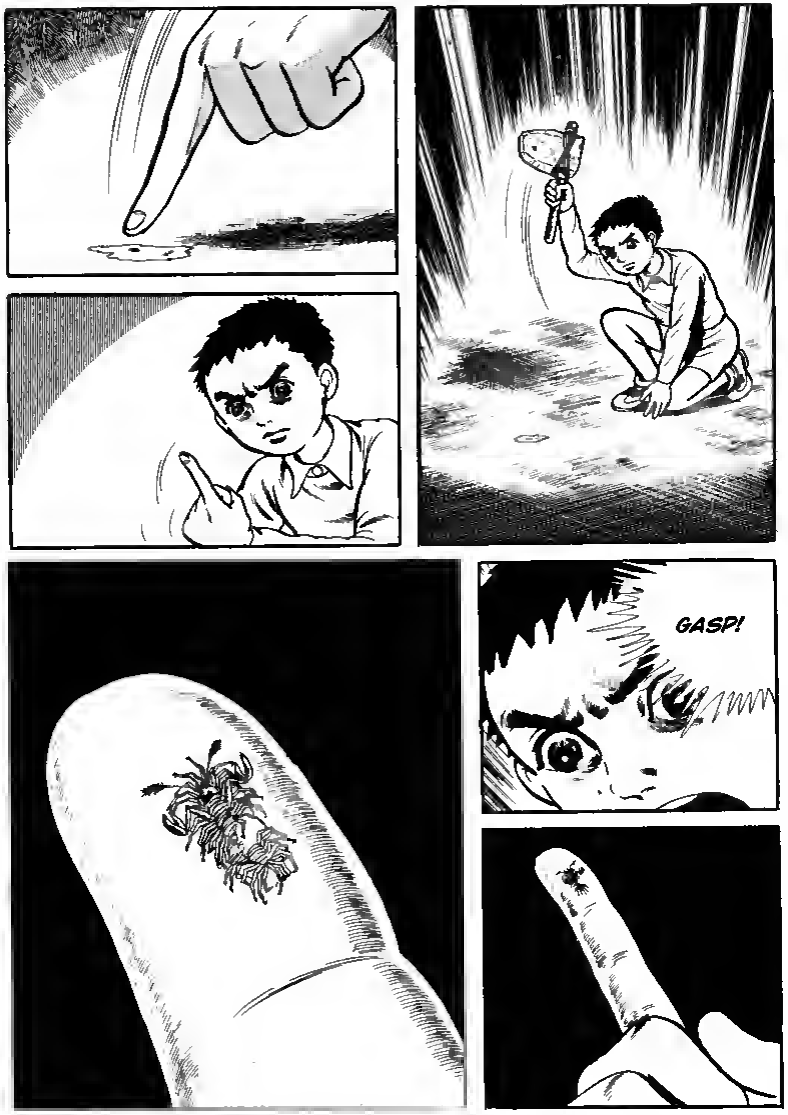
TH-THEY'RE EATING M...
L-LET ME OUT!


CYAAH
AIEE!
UHAAA!
HUFF! HUFF!

WE SACRIFICED HIM!
OTHERWISE WE WOULD HAVE ALL ENDED UP LIKE HIM!
WE HAD NO CHOICE!

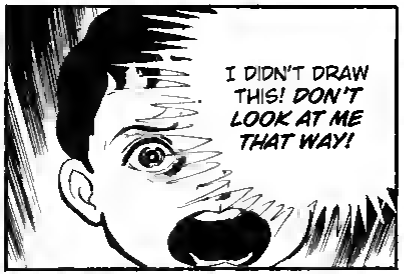
OWW! MY ARM!
ARRGH!
OWW!
SOMETHING'S MOVING AROUND UNDER MY SKIN! IT'S PART OF THAT *THING!*
WHAT IS IT?
KRRCH
IT HURTS! *IT HURTS!*
AHH!

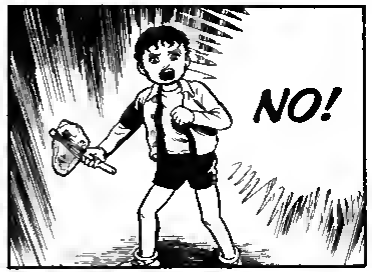

HACK!
AH!
GRRK
I SEE IT!
SKWISH


GASP!

BABIES!
WHAT ?!
THEY'RE OFFSPRING! THEY'RE LITTLE VERSIONS OF THE MONSTER!
I DIDN'T DO IT!
GASP!
I DIDN'T IMAGINE THIS!
IT'S NOT MY FAULT! I'M NOT HUNGRY ANYMORE!

THE MONSTER LAID THEM WHEN IT ATTACKED US!

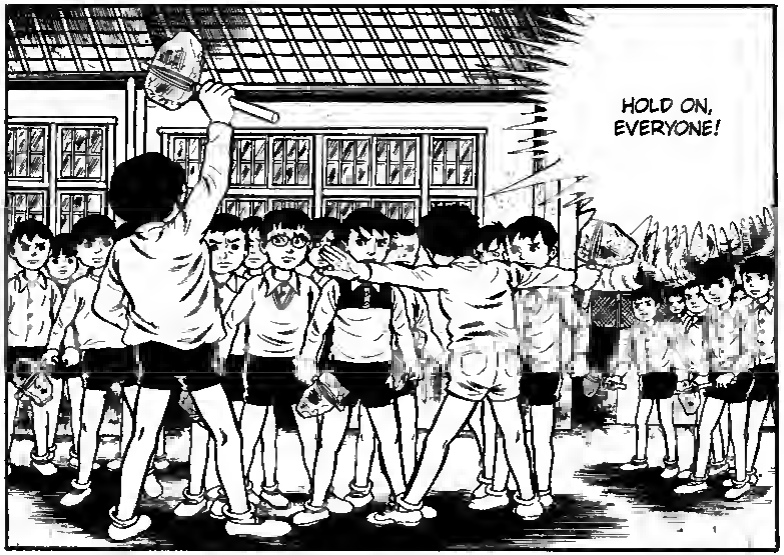

I DIDN'T DRAW THIS! DON'T LOOK AT ME THAT WAY!


NO!

HEY, COME ON, STOP IT!

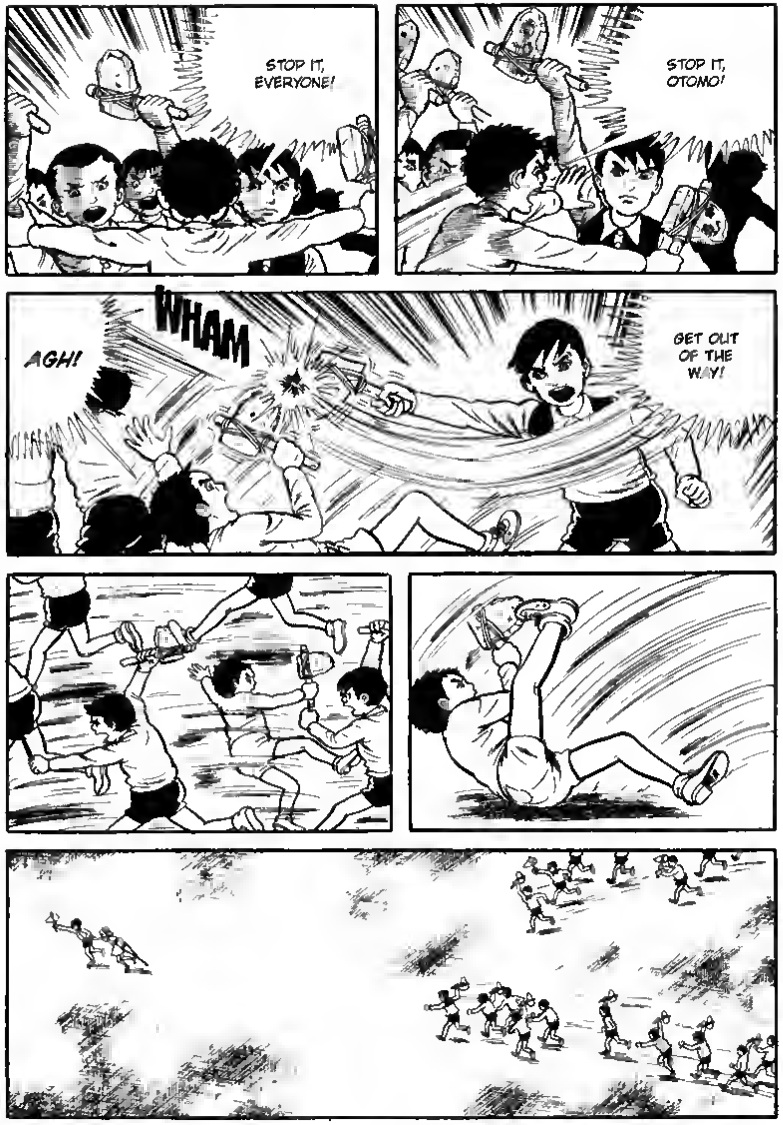
DON'T COME NEAR ME!

MAYBE THIS IS ALSO PART OF HIS IMAGINATION!
NAKATA'S HALLUCINATIONS STARTED THIS!

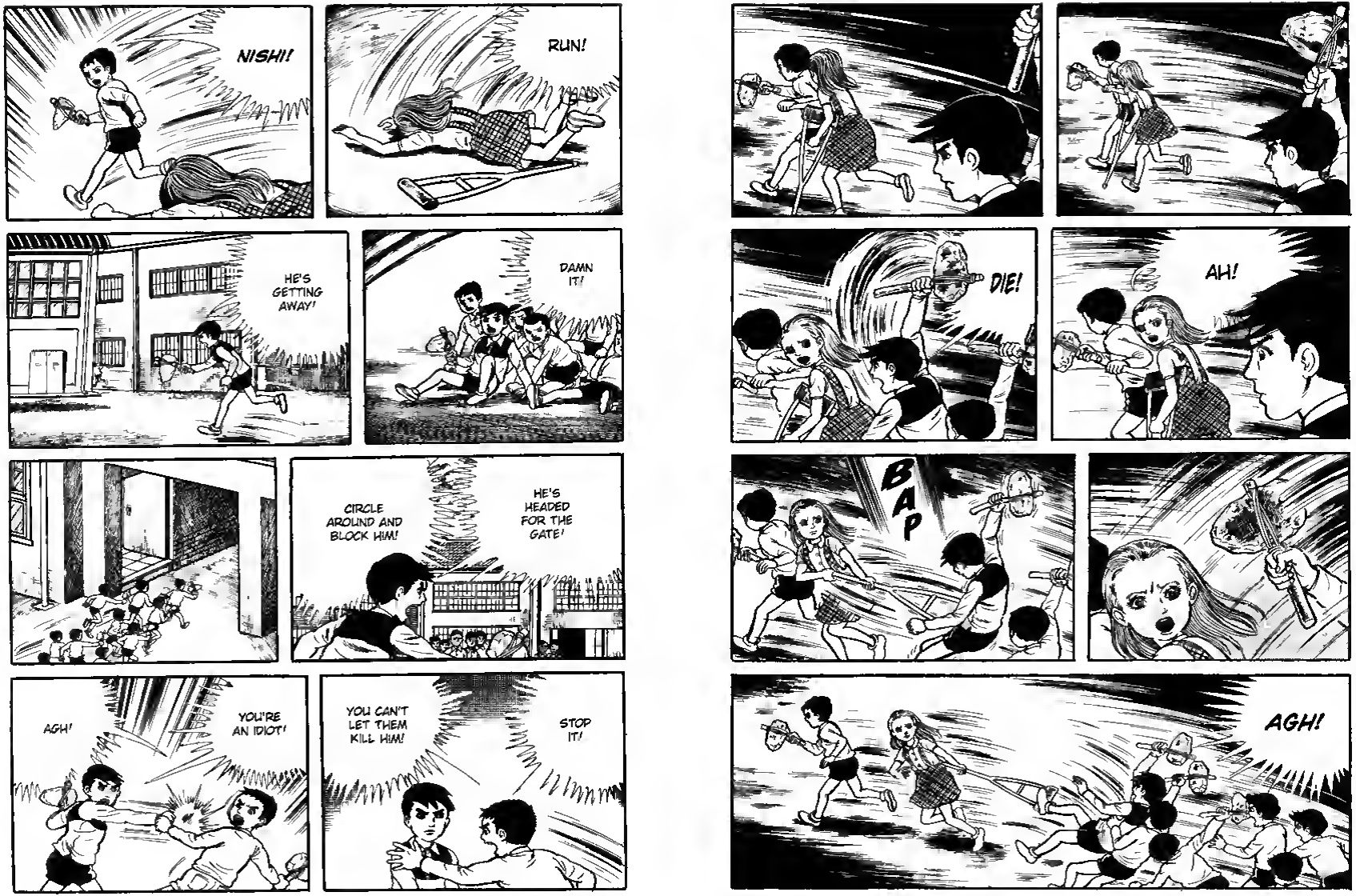

HOLD ON, EVERYONE!

URRGH ...!
STOP!
TUNK
WHOA!
WE HAVE TO KILL HIM!
HE'S THE ONE WHO'S DOING THIS!

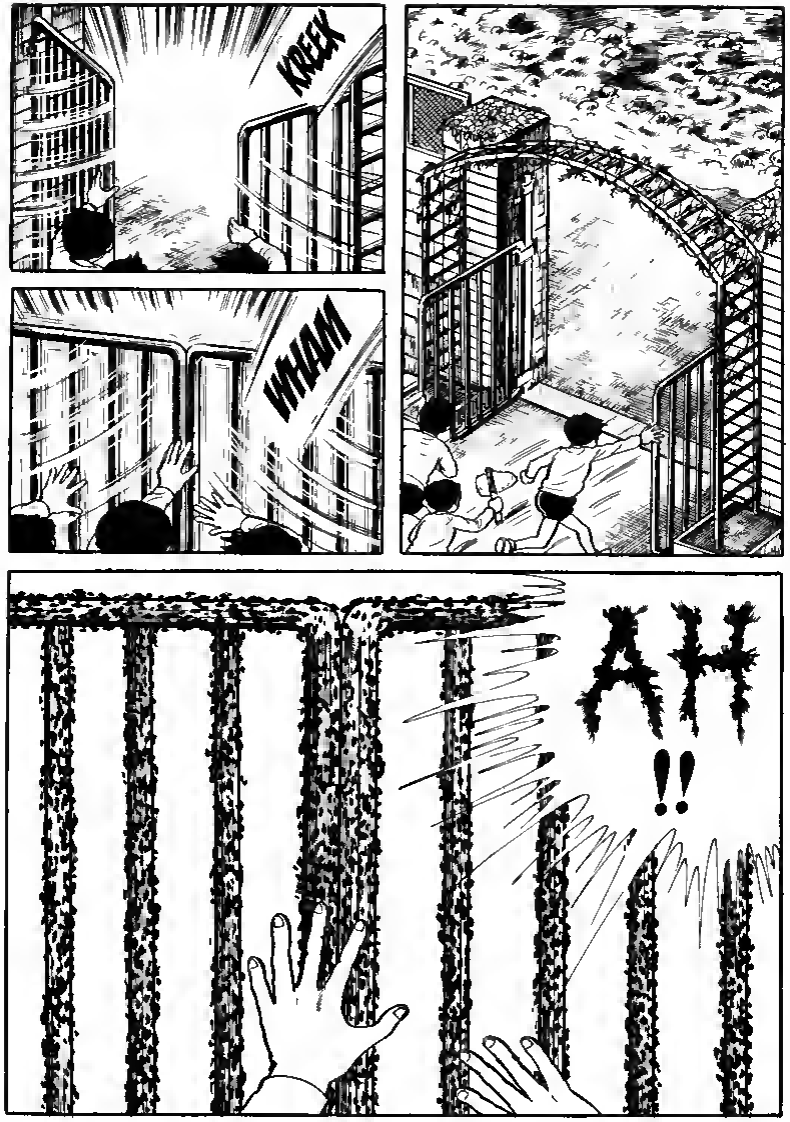
CALM DOWN AND LISTEN TO ME!
STOP IT!
WHEN WE WERE CLASSMATES IN THE SECOND GRADE, NAKATA ALWAYS STOOD BY MY SIDE!
IF YOU KILL NAKATA, YOU'LL HAVE TO KILL ME TOO!
HIS SITUATION IS EXACTLY THE SAME AS MINE WAS BACK THEN! I KNOW HOW HE FEELS!
I WAS SO LONELY BECAUSE I CAN'T WALK RIGHT!
NAKATA GET AWAY FROM THEM!
I WON'T LOSE SUCH A PRECIOUS FRIEND BECAUSE OF THIS!

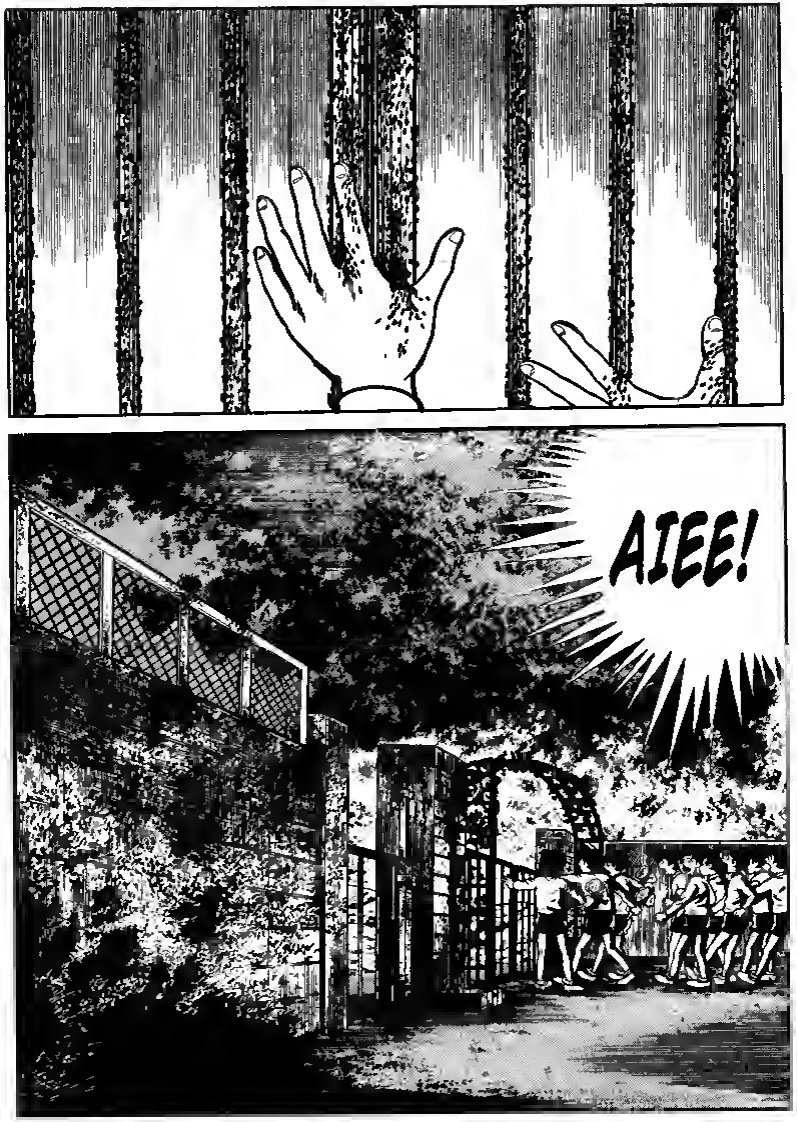

STOP IT, EVERYONE!
STOP IT, OTOMO!
AGH!
WHAM
GET OUT OF THE WAY!

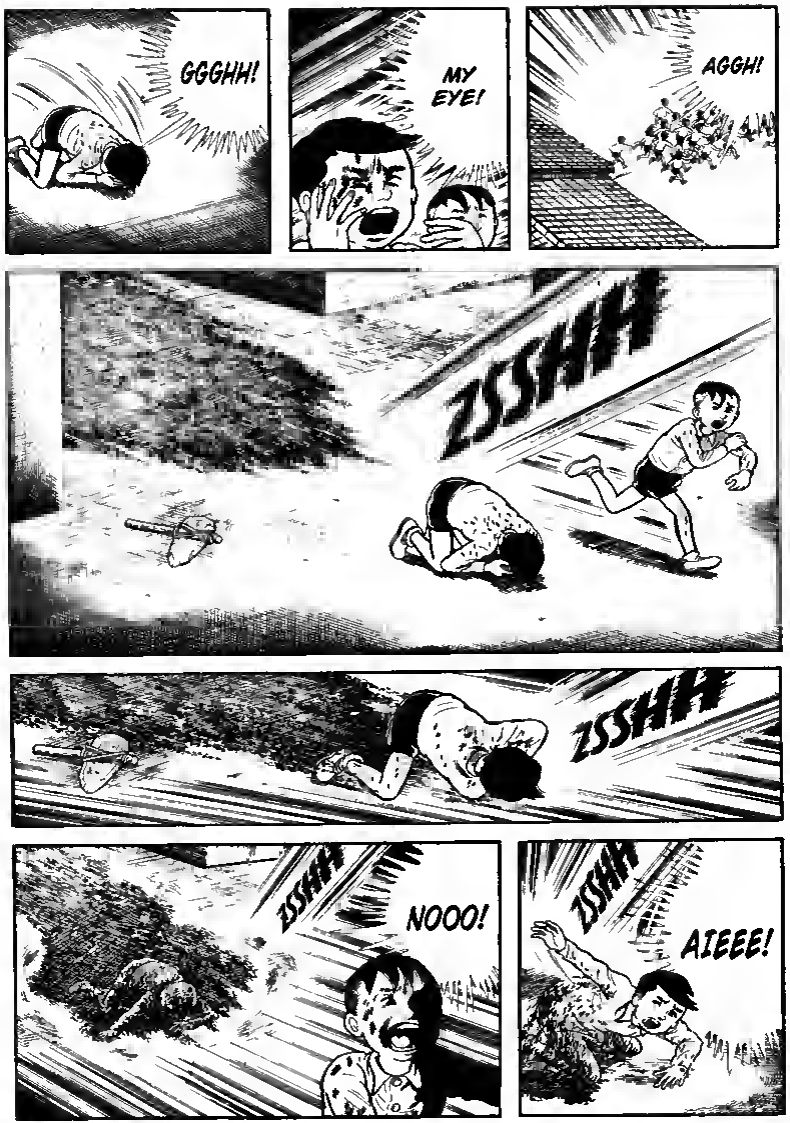
GET AS FAR FROM HERE AS YOU CAN!
HURRY !
NISHI!
RUN, NAKATA!
KILL HIM!
NAKATA'S THE REAL MONSTER!
AH!
DON'T LET HIM GET AWAY. WE HAVE TO KILL HIM!
HE'S RUNNING!


BAP
AGH!

NISHI!
RUN!
HE'S GETTING AWAY!
DAMN IT!
CIRCLE AROUND AND BLOCK HIM!
HE'S HEADED FOR THE GATE!
AGH!
YOU'RE AN IDIOT!
YOU CAN'T LET THEM KILL HIM!
STOP IT!


KREEK
WHAM
AH
!!


AIEE!

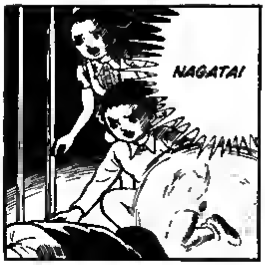


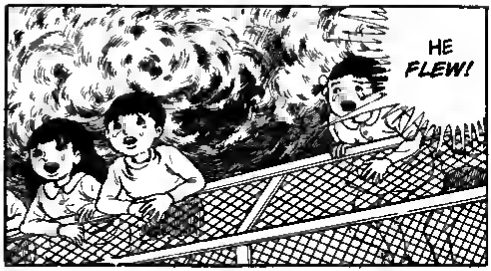
TO BE CONTINUED...

IN THE NEXT VOLUME...

As the flesh-eating insects swarm closer, the students run for their lives...but how can they save themselves from the horrors produced by Nakata's mind?

AVAILABLE APRIL 2007!





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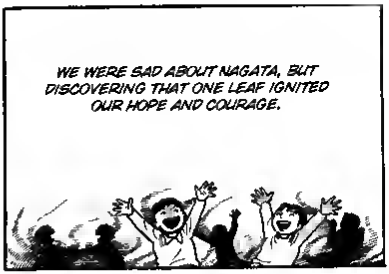

Scans by KickTheKitty